THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

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SUICIDE BOMBER STRIKES ANKARA

A suicide bomber detonated an explosive device in the heart of the Turkish capital, Ankara, while a second assailant was killed in a shootout with police on Sunday. The attack occurred hours before Turkiye's Parliament was set to reopen after a three-month summer recess. Two police officers were slightly wounded in the incident. | **P11**

Department of Information and Public Relations

Treading The Luminous Path of Empowerment...

Commemorating 154th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi Ji

Karnataka Delivers Gandhi Ji's Dreams

Sri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

DELIVERED AS PROMISED...

Free bus service for women across Karnataka

Gruha Jyothi UPTO 200 UNITS FREE ELECTRICITY TO EACH HOME

Anna Bhagya 10kg Free food grains (per person / per month) • Rs.170 per head in lieu of 5kg food grains

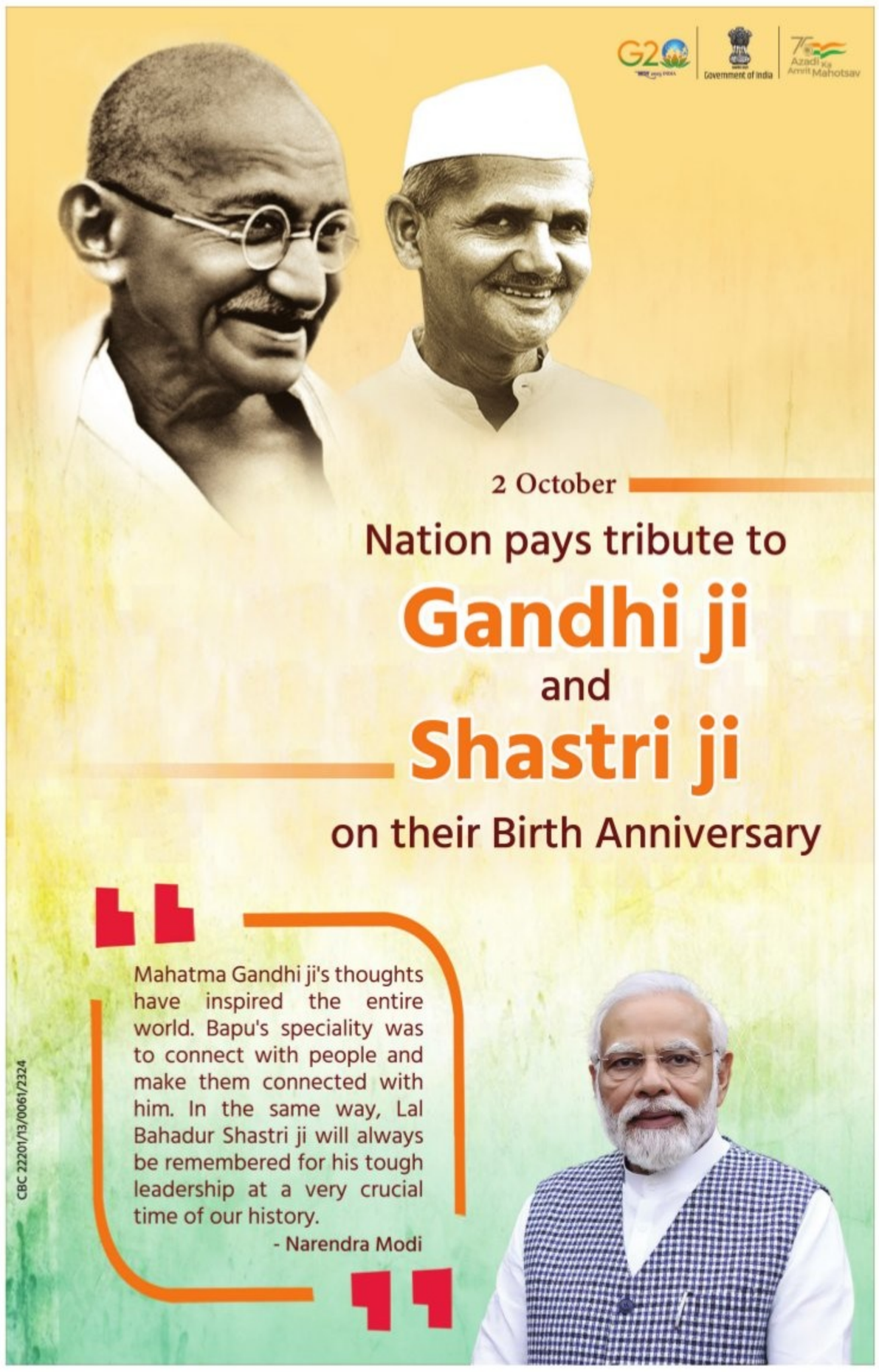
Gruha Lakshmi ₹2000 per month to the female head of the family

Yuva Nidhi ₹3000 Per month for Graduates | ₹1500 Per month for Diploma Holders

As is enshrined in our Constitution - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

karnataka information


G20
Government of India
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
2 October
Nation pays tribute to
Gandhi ji
and
Shastri ji
on their Birth Anniversary
Mahatma Gandhi ji's thoughts have inspired the entire world. Bapu's speciality was to connect with people and make them connected with him. In the same way, Lal Bahadur Shastri ji will always be remembered for his tough leadership at a very crucial time of our history.
- Narendra Modi
CBC 22201/13/0061/2324

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to hereby inform general public that, my client Smt. Nalla Santi Sowjanya W/o Mr. Balakrishna Fanindra Choudhury, aged about 37 years, Residing at CA-09-04, 9th Floor-KSR Cordella, A1-Block, Dasarahalli Main Road, Hebbal, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560024, purchased below mentioned Schedule property in a public auction from L & T Finance Ltd, Corporate Office at Brindavan Plot No. 177, C.S.T. Road, Kalina, Santacruz (East) Mumbai-400098 Represented by its Authorized Signatory Fayaz Ahmed under Registered sale-certificate dated 23/09/2023 which is registered, as document No. SHV-1-05828/2023-24 of Book-I, registered in the office of the sub-Register, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru by taking physical possession of the below mentioned the schedule property on the same day and my client is enjoying the same as absolute owner of the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of property address- ROW HOUSE NO.23, IN THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS "COURTYARD" IN THE CONVERTED SURVEY NO. 163/2 AND 163/3, SITUATED AT VARTHUR VILLAGE, VARTHUR HOBLI, IN ALL MEASURING 2119.93 SQUARE FEET, OF UNDIVIDED LAND AREA (COMMON AREAS), 516.66 SQUARE FEET, OF ADDITIONAL GARDEN AREA AND 2291.02 SQUARE FEET, OF BUILT UP AREA WITH ALL RIGHTS, APPURTENANCES WHATSOEVER HEREUNDER OR UNDERNEATH OR ABOVE THE SURFACE AND BOUNDED ON THE:

EAST: ROAD, WEST: GARDEN, NORTH: ROAD, SOUTH: ROW HOUSE NO.22.

MANJUNATHA REDDY .C, Advocate
No. 14 & 15, 2nd Floor, Sathyappa Plaza, R.T. Street, Bengaluru-560053.
Mob: 9481034506 DATE: 02/10/2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that client **Mr. C. L. MANJUNATHA REDDY** intends to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from **Mrs. BHAWARI BAI SURANA,** W/o Shri. Ghewarchand Surana, No. 45/3, Fair Field Layout, Race Course Road, Bangalore - 560 001, Karnataka, INDIA.

In view of the above, anybody who has any subsisting claim, demand, estate, share, right, title or interest of any nature whatsoever on the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner including by way of sale, exchange, let, lease, license, assignment, mortgage, lien, charge, maintenance, trust, possession, tenancy, easement, beneficial interest or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any suit or award passed by any Court or Authority, arbitrator, lis-pendens, power of attorney, bequest, inheritance, succession, gift, FSI, development rights, partnership, family arrangement or settlement or otherwise any encumbrance howsoever **("Claim");** may file their objections in writing with documentary proof before the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, and if the undersigned does not receive any objections from whomsoever in whatsoever manner, then it shall be presumed that the Schedule Property is free from all sort of Claims, encumbrances, and if any Claim existed, the claimant has relinquished such Claim and/or waived their right to exercise such Claim and my client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing HIG (S F H S) House bearing No.390, Present Municipal No.390, Present BBMP PID No. 100-767-390, measuring East to West 16.50 Mtrs and North to South 18.40 Mtrs., totally measuring 303.60 Sq. Mtrs and consisting therein total 1800 Sq.Ft of Ground and First Floor residential building, situated at Rajmahal Vilas II Stage, 23rd Block, Bangalore-560 094, Present BBMP Radhakrishna Temple Ward No.18, Old BBMP Sanjaynagar Ward No. 100, and bounded on the ;

East by : Site No.389, West by : Site No.391, North by : 11th Cross Road, South by : Site No.372.

PRABHAKAR L. SHETTY, Advocate
No.6/3, Kumara Cot Layout, Kumara Krupa Road, Bangalore-560 001.
Ph. No. 9448075994 DATE: 29.09.2023

XPRESS FOCUS

FIRST LADY OF KENYA RACHEL RUTO E.G.H RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS KISS HUMANITARIAN AWARD 2022

The First Lady Kenya, Rachel Ruto, E.G.H., was awarded the prestigious KISS Humanitarian Award 2022 at an event in the KISS campus that was graced by the Odisha Governor Prof Ganeshi Lal. The award recognizes her outstanding dedication to humanitarian efforts and her unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the underprivileged and underserved, particularly women, children, and vulnerable communities.

In her acceptance speech, Rachel expressed her gratitude for the warm welcome she received in Bhubaneswar and extended her thanks to the Governor and the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr. Achyuta Samanta for their hospitality. She emphasized her eagerness to collaborate with institutions like KISS in their shared mission to create a more compassionate and equitable world. The First Lady commended the visionary work of Dr Samanta who has been instrumental in providing free education to over 40,000 underprivileged students. Mrs. Ruto acknowledged that the award was not just a recognition of her individual efforts but also a tribute to the spirit and resilience of the Kenyan people, especially women. She pledged to continue advocating for women's well-being, financial inclusion, access to knowledge, and livelihood initiatives through Women Economic Empowerment programs.

The Odisha Governor, in his address, praised the First Lady for her humanitarian efforts and dedication to the betterment of humanity. He commended the work of KISS and its Founder, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, in ensuring that democracy reaches every corner of society.

Dr Samanta, in his speech, greeted the Kenyan First Lady in Swahili and drew parallels between her work and the mission of KISS. He highlighted the significant impact she has made through initiatives like MaMa Doing Good, Women Economic Empowerment, and Environmental and Climate Action.

He said both he and the First Lady are united in "purpose and mission" in serving the society even though they are separated by continents, describing her as his sibling, he added.

Among others, the Chancellor of KISS Deemed to be University Satya S. Tripathi; President of KIIT and KISS Saswati Bal; Kenya High Commission in India Willy K. Bett; Vice president of KIIT and KISS Umapada Bose, Secretary R N Das and other senior functionaries from both KIIT and KISS were present on the occasion.

The KISS Humanitarian Award was initiated in 2008 and is conferred annually to recognize and felicitate individuals for their exemplary and distinguished service to humanity across the globe. Notable previous awardees have hailed from five continents and include luminaries such as Madam Edna Bomo Molewa, former premier of the North-western state of South Africa Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Ham-Kee-Sun, President of Hanseo University, Mr. Anerood Jugnauth, President of the Republic of Mauritius, Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Nicholas Addison Phillips, President of the Supreme Court of UK, Lyonchhen Jigmiy Thinley, Prime Minister of Bhutan, Madam Albina Du Boisrouvray, Founder FXB International, Switzerland, Ms. Anne Margaret Fagertun Stenhammer, Regional Director of UN Women for South Asia, Ms. Ashley Judd, UNFPA Global Goodwill Ambassador, His Holiness Dalai Lama, Nobel Peace Laureate, Prof Muhammad Yunus.

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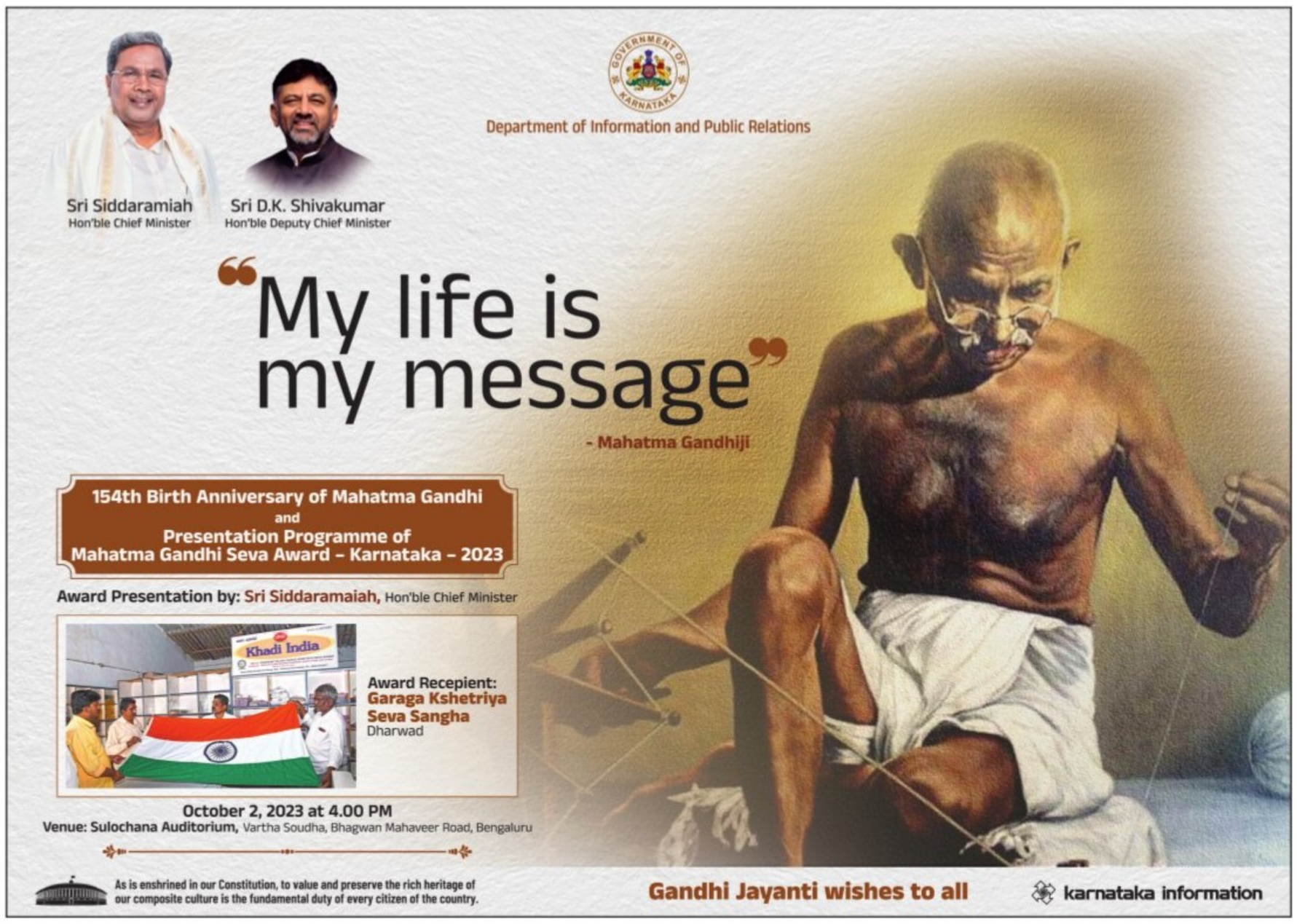
Sri Siddaramiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Department of Information and Public Relations
"My life is my message"
- Mahatma Gandhiji
154th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi
and
Presentation Programme of
Mahatma Gandhi Seva Award – Karnataka – 2023
Award Presentation by: Sri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister
Khadi India
Award Recepient:
Garaga Kshetriya Seva Sangha
Dharwad
October 2, 2023 at 4.00 PM
Venue: Sulochana Auditorium, Vartha Soudha, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru
As is enshrined in our Constitution, to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.
Gandhi Jayanti wishes to all
karnataka information

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our branch office of KLM Axiva Finvest Ltd, Akshaya nagar branch which is presently located at First Floor of the building, 3rd Cross, 1st Block, Akshayanagar, Kowdenahalli Extension, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru, 560016 will be shifted/merged with our T.C PALAYA Branch at No: 138, Palm Arcade, First Floor, Anandapura, T C Palya Main Road, K. R. Puram, Bengaluru, 560036 with effect from 03rd January 2024.

For KLM Axiva Finvest Ltd., Branch Manager, Akshaya Nagar, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that our branch office of KLM Axiva Finvest Ltd, Marthahally outer ring road branch which is presently located at Door No: 41, 1st Main 2nd Cross, Near Anjaneya Temple, Aswath Nagar, Martha-halli Outer Ring road, Bengaluru, 560037 will be shifted/merged with our Marthahalli branch at No.42/1. 1st Floor, Shop No.2 and 3,C.T Street, N Chandra Reddy Building, Opposite to Chowdeshwari Temple Marathahalli, Bengaluru, 560037with effect from 03rd January 2024.

For KLM Axiva Finvest Ltd., Branch Manager, Marthahalli Outer Ring Road, Bangalore.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Electrical (General), Construction, Egmore, Chennai
Tender Notice No. E-HQ-CN-MS-EOT-4-2023-24
Dated : 27-09-2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, The Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer / General / Construction / Southern Railway / Egmore, Chennai - 600008 invites E-Tender for the following Work.

Name of Work : Chinna Salem - Kallakurichi New Line Work - Electrification of Station buildings, Platforms, LC gate lodges, S&T Huts, Pumping arrangements, Electrification of Camp Office, Railway Staff Quarters etc., in Chinna Salem to Kallakurichi section including power supply arrangements. **Period of Completion :** 6 Months; **Approximate Cost of Work :** ₹ 1,18,12,621.10; **Cost of Tender form :** Nil; **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) :** ₹ 2,09,100/-;

Tender closing date & time : **27-10-2023 at 11:00 AM**; Tender Opening Date & Time : **27-10-2023 at 11:30 AM.**

Complete details can be seen on **www.ireps.gov.in**

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Gati Shakti Unit
Tiruchchirappalli Division
E-Tender Notice No. T-SG-36-I-21-2023-2024
Dated : 28-09-2023

The Chief Project Manager, Gati Shakti Unit, Tiruchchirappalli Division invites online tender on behalf of The President of India, for the following works up to **14.00 hrs** on **20-10-2023**

Name of the Work : Provision of Railnet / Telephone arrangement at IOH / TPJ, TVR Mechanical Depot & Digital Clocks with GPS Synchronization under Minimum essential amenities over TPJ Division. Cash Value : ₹ **55.39 Lakhs**. Earnest Money Deposit Amount : ₹ **1,10,800/-**; Validity Offer : **60 Days**. Closing Date and Time : **20-10-2023** Period of Completion in months : **Nine Months.**

If the date of opening of tenders happens to be a declared holiday at a later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.

The detailed Tender Notice, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to tender is issued can be accessed through **https://www.ireps.gov.in** GST will apply as per extent norms of GOI

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
E-TENDER NOTICE No. ERS/SG/CN/2023/OT/07

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Construction, Ernakulam invites E-Tender for the following works.

1) Name of the work: Signalling and Telecommunication works in connection with closing of LC No.56 at km 70/300-400 between Chalakudi and Karukutty station in Thiruvananthapuram Division.

2) Approximate cost of the work: ₹ **21,63,209/-; 3)** Cost of Tender Form: **Nil; 4)** Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): ₹ **43,300/-; 5)** Completion Period of work: **6 (Six) Months; 6)** Tender Closing Date & Time: **23.10.2023 at 15.30 hrs; 7)** Notice board particulars where details of can be obtained : **Office of the Dy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, (Construction), Southern Railway, Ernakulam Junction;**

Note: 1. Value of tender inclusive of GST as per extant rules for the supply and services by the tenderer. 2. Visit **www.ireps.gov.in** for detailed terms and conditions and other details.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT No. 2 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION VIDE COURT ORDER DATED: 22/09/2023
CMP No. 16/2022
VIDEO CONFERENCING/PHYSICAL HEARING

PETITIONER/S: M/S. ARV INFRASTRUCTURES

-V/s-

RESPONDENT/S SRI. V. VEERA REDDY AND ANOTHER

RESPONDENT No. 2: SRI. V. RAMLINGA REDDY, AGED ABOUT 43 YEARS, SON OF SRI. K. SIDDA REDDY RESIDING AT No. 728, V.T. KANAKARAJA BUILDING, 26th CROSS, GUNJUR MAIN ROAD, OPP TO VARTHUR GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, BENGALURU - 560087... **RESPONDENT/S**

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed a CMP on this Court Under Section 11 (5) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 read with Rule 2 of Scheme for Appointment of Arbitrator by Karnataka High Court, as in the copy annexed hereunto.

Emergent Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law to act for you, in this matter on **30-10-2023** at 10:30 A.M in case you intend to contest the Petition. If you fail to appear, the petition will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on 22-09-2023.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore.

Government of Karnataka

(KARNATAKA RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DEPARTMENT) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION, DIVISION KALABURAGI-585105

No:EE/RDW&S/Dvn/Tech/2022-23/981 Dated : 26-09-2023

KPPP PORTAL SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two cover)

The Executive Engineer Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, Kalaburagi on behalf of Honorable Governor, Karnataka here by invites separate Technical & Financial bid tender for drinking water works from eligible civil contractor detailed as below.

The Tender Document with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and should be submitted through E-procurment system only.

1) Name of work: **Aland Taluka-01(Indent No 4792) Sedam Taluka-01 (Indent No 4684)** 2) Head of A/C: JJM 2022-23, 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Class- II & above, 4) Tender Amount : Min 3,77,77,707/- Max 4,99,98,000/-, 5) Date of Commencement of downloading of Bidding document: **26-09-2023 11:00am,** 6) Cost of tender form and EMD: As per KPPP Portal, 7) Last Date to submit bids on e-portal: **11-10-2023 4.00pm,** 8) Opening of Techincal Bid: **12-10-2023 4.01pm**, 9) Opening of Financial Bid: **16-10-2023 11:00am,** 10) Address for any clarification reg.tender : Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division, PRE division 1st floor Kusanoor road Kalaburagi.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
RDW&S Division, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/336/KSMC&A/2023-24

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Stores & Purchase Department, Central Offices,
Sarige Sadana, Main Road, Kalaburagi-585 102.
Tel. & Fax No. 08472-260502, Mobile No. 77606 86172 (COSP), 77609 92029 (S.O).

No. KKT/CO/COSP/ 504 /2023-24 Dated: 30.09.2023

NOTICE INVITING SHORT TERMS TENDER

(THROUGH KPP PORTAL MODE ONLY)

Tenders through e-procurement portal (pre-qualification & commercial) are invited for supply of following items.

1) No. & date : **G-11/30.09.23,** 2) Tender nomenclature : Supply of ETM Thermal Paper Rolls, 3) Value : **Rs. 99.00 lakhs,** 4) Last date for online submission: **09.10.2023**

All the details of Tender, Registration, Tender form documents etc. are available at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.** Mail to **cospnekrtc@gmail.com or support@eprochelpdesk.com** for further information if required. Further, any addendum / corrigendum related to changes in terms and conditions of tender, specification and calendar of events etc. will be uploaded only through KPP portal.

Sd/- Controller of Stores and Purchases
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/Kalaburagi/334/KSMC&A/2023-24

Your Guide to Spicy Living INDULGE Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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U.S. CONGRESS AVOIDS GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IN LAST-MINUTE DEAL

The US government has avoided a shutdown of its services after both the House and Senate agreed on a short-term funding deal till Nov 17

NEW AID TO UKRAINE BLOCKED IN THE DEAL

President Joe Biden signed the short-term funding deal minutes before the deadline, by leaving out the new aid to Ukraine. A government shutdown would have meant govt staff will be on furlough (without pay) and various government services would be suspended. The Congress will need to fund the govt again in the coming weeks, which means the crisis is not yet over | **P11**

ZELENSKYY'S WASHINGTON VISIT A NOUGHT

- The loss of Ukraine aid was devastating for lawmakers of both parties vowing to support president Zelenskyy after his recent US visit
- The Senate bill had included $6 billion for Ukraine, which has now been dropped. However, Biden said the US cannot allow American support for Ukraine to be interrupted and vowed to continue funding

2 million

FEDERAL GOVT STAFF WOULD HAVE LOST PAY IF NO DEAL WAS REACHED

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

6,500 cusecs flows to TN from city: DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THOUGH the state government has not released water to Tamil Nadu from the KRS Dam, the natural flow that cannot be controlled has amounted to 6,500 cusecs flowing into the neighbouring state, said Deputy Chief Minister and Water Resources Minister DK Shivakumar here on Sunday.

He told the media that inflows into Cauvery river basin dams has increased and stands at 15,000 cusecs now. "This has brought us some relief. The inflow has to increase further and everyone should pray for good rain. More the inflow, lesser the pressure on us."

"We have not released water from KRS. With good rain in and around Bengaluru over the the last few days, good amount of water is going to Tamil Nadu . This is uncontrolled water that flows into the neighbouring state whenever there is an increase in the rainfall. Around 6,500 cusecs has gone to Tamil Nadu . This natural flow has given us strength. We have released water to farmers to save standing crops," he said.

He, however, maintained that the state government's legal fight will continue. **P6**

India's Avinash Sable celebrates after winning the men's 3000m steeplechase final on Sunday; (right) Tajinderpal Singh Toor won gold in men's shot put event | PTI

India on track for biggest Games

Track and field athletes dominate show as country cross 50-medal mark in ongoing Asiad

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Hangzhou

ON China's National Day, India's hopes of surging towards the 100-medal mark received a major boost. Athletics was at its sublime best. It helped India accumulate 15 medals, their biggest in a single day. They crossed the 50-medal mark too.

Even before Sunday dawned at Hangzhou, the day was heaving with promise from an Indian perspective. Aditi Ashok, the overnight leader, headed into the final day as the favourite. However, she tripped and only managed to win silver. Rohan Bopanna, fresh from winning the mixed doubles gold, was one of the many interested onlookers. Even as she lamented about 'losing gold' to the media, shooting, predictably, gave India its first gold of the day. The trap team of Kynan Chenai, Zoravar Singh and Prithviraj Tondaiman did enough to pip Kuwait.

There was a bit of history too. The women's trap team fetched silver. Rajeshwari Kumari, who was part of the team (Preeti Rajak and Manisha Keer were others), emulated her father and acting Olympic Council of Asia president Randhir Singh to win an Asiad medal.

In the afternoon, most of Hangzhou's roads seemingly led to the athletics Stadium or the badminton arena. China is on a week-long holiday (September 29 to October 6) as part of the Mid Autumn Festival and National Day. In badminton, the atmosphere was off the charts as the hosts fought back to complete a come-from-behind 3-2 win over India in the men's team final. For roughly two hours of that final, the crowd had been forced to be quiet for vast swathes as India had taken a 2-0 lead. But, China are top dogs in the sport for a reason.

In athletics, though, the newest darling of China's track and field, Wu Yanni, was disqualified for a false start in the women's 100m hurdles. India's Jyothi Yarraji was also wrongly disqualified but she ran under protest and ended with a silver. Talk about mental toughness.

SUPER SUNDAY

GOLD: **Avinash Sable** (men's 3000m steeplechase); **Tajinderpal Singh Toor** (men's shot put); **Men's trap team**

SILVER: **Harmilan Bains** (women's 1500m); **M Sreeshankar** (men's long jump); **Jyothi Yarraji** (women's 100m hurdles); **Ajay Kumar Saroj** (men's 1500m); **Badminton men's team; Aditi Ashok** (women's golf); **Women's trap team**

BRONZE: **Kynan Chenai** (men's trap) **Nikhat Zareen** (boxing); **Jinson Johnson** (men's 1500m); **Nandini Agasara** (women's heptathlon 800m); **Seema Punia** (Discus throw)

TALE OF COURAGE & GRIT

Boxer **Parveen Hooda** puts aside her father's health concerns to secure at least a bronze medal and a spot at Paris Olympics | **P13**

CBI arrests 4 for killing two Manipuri students

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Sunday arrested four persons, including two women, from Churachandpur in Manipur in connection with the abduction and killing of two Meitei students.

"I'm pleased to share that some of the main culprits responsible for the abduction and murder of Phijam Hemanjit and Hijam Linthoingambi have been arrested from Churachandpur today," Chief Minister N Biren Singh posted on microblogging platform X (formerly Twitter). "As the saying goes, one may abscond after committing the crime, but they cannot escape the long hands of the law," Singh added.

He said the government was committed to ensuring maximum punishment, including capital punishment, to the culprits for the heinous crime they had committed.

It was learnt that the CBI team, assisted by the Manipur police and Army, intercepted a Bolero in which the four accused were travelling at the Henglep subdivision around noon. Two minor girls aged 9 and 11 — daughters of one of the accused women — were also in the vehicle.

Subsequently, all six were taken to Imphal airport in an Army helicopter. Around 5 pm, they were flown out of the state to Assam capital Guwahati, in a routine commercial flight. The arrested accused will be produced before the Competent Court at Guwahati designated as per the orders of the Supreme Court, the CBI said in a statment. It added that the two minor children have been handed over to District Child Protection Officer, Kamrup Metro District for their welfare and protection.

Sources said the CBI was tracking the phone of one of the slain students, and found that it was being used by the accused.

Hemanjit (20) and Linthoingambi (17) went missing in July when the ethnic violence in Manipur was at its peak. Photos showing their bodies surfaced on social media recently, days after internet services were restored in the state after a four-month blackout.

Kukis protest against arrest

Civil society organisations in Kuki-majority Churachandpur on Sunday declared an indefinite shutdown in the district from Monday morning in protest against the 'abduction' of six Kuki-Zo tribals

SWEEPING CHANGES

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participates in a special cleanliness programme called *Ek Taarikh, Ek Ghanta, Ek Saath* as part of the nationwide 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, in New Delhi on Sunday | PTI

EXPRESS READ

Old-age pension will be hiked in next budget: CM

Bengaluru: In the next budget, the old-age pension will be hiked from the existing Rs 1,200 per month, announced Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday. However, he did not confirm what the revised pension amount would be | **P6**

GST collection in Sept zooms to ₹1.63 lakh cr

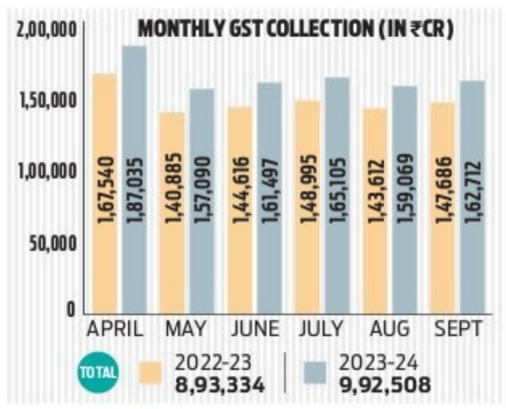
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in September rose 10% year-on-year to ₹1.63 lakh crore. This is for the fourth time that the gross GST collection has crossed the ₹1.60 lakh crore mark in 2023-24. In August this year, the collections had fallen below the ₹1.60 lakh crore mark to ₹1.57 lakh crore.

The total GST collection in the first six months of the financial year has crossed ₹9.9 lakh crore, and if the trend continues, the full year collection could cross ₹20 lakh crore. In the first half (April-September) of the last financial year, the total collection had stood at ₹8.9 lakh crore.

The average monthly GST collection this year (till September) has been ₹1.65 lakh crore, which is 11% higher than ₹1.49 lakh crore during the corresponding period last year. According to a finance ministry statement, revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) in September are 14% higher than revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

Most large states saw double-digit increase in GST collection barring Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Jharkhand and Haryana. Bihar saw a decline of 5% year on year.



Actor crashes into couple, woman dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WELL-known Kannada actor Nagabhushana NS was arrested for allegedly knocking down a couple, in which a 48-year-old woman was killed and her husband was critically injured. The actor was released on station bail.

The incident occurred near Suprabhatha Breeze apartment on Vasanthapura Main Road in Uttarahalli on Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Prema, a homemaker, while her husband Krishna B, 58, sustained serious injuries in the incident.

The police said the accident occurred around 9.30 pm when the couple went out for a walk outside their apartment. The actor, who was coming in a car, allegedly lost control of the vehicle and crashed into the couple before ramming an electric pole. The woman died while being rushed to a hospital.

Nagabhushana

Shiva Prakash Devaraju, Deputy Commissioner of Police - Traffic (South), said Nagabhushana, a 37-year-old resident of JP Nagar, was driving from Uttarahalli towards Konanakunte Cross. "The incident occurred because of rash and negligent driving. There was a speed breaker but he did not reduce the speed and ended up hitting the couple and crashing into an electric pole. The actor has been released on station bail."

CONTINUED ON: P5

The couple came 15 days ago from Mandya to visit their son, who works as a software engineer in the city. Krishna, who works as a driver at a private firm, is currently being treated at a private hospital

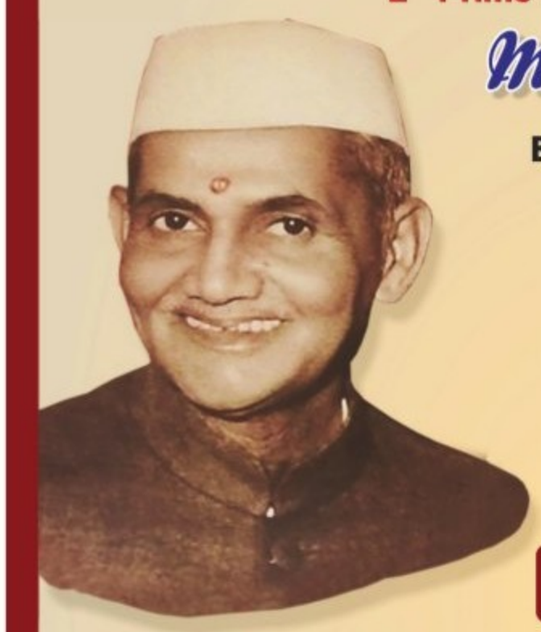
— Police

"JAI JAWAN JAI KISAN"

119th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF
BHARAT RATNA SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI
2nd Prime Minister of India

Musical Performance

By the renowned HAVAS Musical Group of Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Mr. Dostonbek & Mr. Kakhramon

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri
(2nd October 1904 - 11th January 1966)

Monday, 2nd October, 2023
06:00 PM

at
Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial
1, Motilal Nehru Place, New Delhi

You are cordially invited

The program can also be seen through the following links
Website : www.Lbsim.ac.in
http://fblive.lbsim.ac.in
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ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 02/10/2023 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Varsha • Masa: Bhadrapada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Thrutheeya 10.26 am • Nakshatra: Bharani 10.20 pm • Moon in Vrishbha Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 20°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST: Showers early. Overcast.
Sunrise 6.09 am | Sunset 6.09 pm | Moonrise 8.32 pm | Moonset 8.43 am

With only 45 days left, less than 1% vehicles have affixed HSRPs

Lack of awareness slows down the process, wide publicity required, say officials

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

HIGHLIGHTS

Vehicles registered before April 2019 have to affix HSRP

Nearly 2 crore vehicles said to be registered before 2019

Last date to affix HSR plates is November 17

With 45 days remaining, 4 lakh vehicles should register daily

WHILE the state transport department has mandated the affixation of High-Security Registration Plates (HSRP) on nearly two crore vehicles that were registered prior to April 1, 2019, hardly 30,000 vehicle owners, i.e. not even 1 per cent, have come forward to get their numbers plates changed.

On August 17, the state government issued a notification mandating the installation of HSRP exclusively from the authorized dealers of original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and the last date to get the HSRP number plates is November 17. Beyond this date, owners will be fined for not having HSRPs. However, the pace at which the plates are being affixed indicates that there is hardly any awareness about this rule among the public.

The nearly two crore vehicle owners across the state are left with around 45 days to get the new number plates, and if this has to happen within the deadline, more than 4 lakh vehicles should register and get the HSRP affixed, each day till November 17. TNIE spoke to some of the old vehicle owners about the mandatory HSRP affixation, and they said that they were not aware of any such rule, and that they are continuing with the old number plates only.

Prakash Murugan, a vehicle owner said, "I got a scooter in 2018. I am not aware of any rule that I need to get a HSRP within November 17. However if there is any such rule, I will abide by it." Transport department officials from the transport department accepted that the HSRP affixation is progressing at a snail's pace, and said that this was due to lack of awareness and added that they will be widely publicising the new rule across the state.

When asked that if due to poor response to the new rule, the last date for the affixation will be extended beyond November 17, a transport official said it is too early to comment on this.

EPFO regional office employees take part in the 'Swachhata Hi Seva 2023' campaign in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

2.5L B'lureans take part in cleanliness campaign

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

MORE than 2.5 lakh Bengalureans took part in the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign held at different parts of the city and collected more than 25 tonnes of waste on Sunday.

The campaign was led by different government departments, organisations, NGOs, Resident Welfare Associations and volunteers at various locations like lakes, railway stations, underpasses, markets, parks, bus stands, major junctions, flyovers and streets, places near school and colleges, hospital premises and places of worship.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation conducted a cleanliness drive at 15 stations and at project sites, said an official release. Drives were done at MG Road, KR Pura, Kempegowda, Pattanagere, National College, Nagasandra, Sampige Road, JP Nagar, Konanakunte Cross, and Indiranagar metro stations.

Three-time Grammy award winner Ricky Kej took part in a massive cleanliness drive organised at Katigenahalli village along with the Central Industrial Security Force of Benglauru airport. Posting about it on X, Kej saluted the CISF for their wonderful work. "Most of the garbage we collected was single use plastics. A lot had to be dug from deep in the ground. Here is our appeal to everyone - let us all reduce our use of single use plastics," he said.

An official release from India Post said that post offices across Karnataka Circle took part in the event organised nationally at 10 am on the theme 'Ek Tareek, Ek Ghanta'. "Postal department officials carried out Shramdhan (voluntary contribution to society using physical effort) for atleast one hour," it said.

Bengaluru Divison of South Western Railway launched the 'Miracle 14 Minutes' initiative to clean Vande Bharath Express train in 14 minutes to ensure a fast turnaround. "The Kacheguda - Yesvantpur Vande Bharath train was cleaned and made ready for passengers to board the train in just 13 minutes," said an official release.

The Division also organised a massive Shramdhan at 300 locations across the division. An official release said the Shramdhan was a response to the PM's 'Ek Ghanta Ek Sath Ek 10 Baje' call on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti.

The Air Force Technical College also conducted a massive cleanliness campaign outside the college premises on Subroto Mukherjee Road, Jalahalli. The NSS unit of Bangalore University conducted the drive at its affiliated colleges.

EXPRESS READ

Maps of 225 delimited wards released

Bengaluru: The Karnataka government issued a final notification of the newly delimited 225 wards in the month of September. This reduced the number of BBMP wards from 243 to 225, and BBMP has released the maps of these 225 wards on Sunday. The final maps of each of the 225 wards can be accessed from http://bbmpdelimitation2023.com/

'Swachhata Hi Seva' by Canara Bank

Bengaluru: Canara Bank organised the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign "Ek Tareek, Ek Ghanta" with the theme 'Garbage Free India', on Sunday. K Satyanarayana Raju, Managing Director & CEO, along with all Executive Directors, Chief General Managers, General Managers, other Executives and staff including Bengaluru citizens participated in the cleanliness drive at Krishna Rao Park, Dewan Madhava Rao Road and Netkallappa Circle in Basavanagudi. "More than 500 participants cleaned the entire area and collected the garbage. The collected garbage is segregated into different categories - dry waste, plastic and stacked in dumping yard of Krishna Rao Park for further processing and disposal," a release stated. Canara Bank organised the campaign across its 24 Circle Offices, 176 regional offices and other Offices, branches and business units across India.

National conference on inclusive education

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FOURTH Wave Foundation in partnership with Indian Institute Of Management - Bangalore (IIM-B) is organising 'Never-The-Less', a national conference on enabling inclusive educational space for children with disabilities.

The two-day event will take place on October 6 and 7, at IIM-B. The conference will witness thought leaders, influencers, and advocates of inclusive education, including policy-makers, government officials, corporate leaders, academicians, youth representatives, and other stakeholders, to make a roadmap and promote education at the grassroots level.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO's) State of the Education Report for India - 2019 on Children With Disabilities, stated that there are 3,30,000 children between the ages of 5 and 19 with disabilities in Karnataka.

About 70,000 of these children have never received any education, and about 50,000 children have been reported to drop out over time. The event will deliberate on the importance of inclusion in education for children with disabilities across Indian schools and aim to establish the importance of quality education for every child.

Students request KEA to stop PGET results till Oct 6

PURAN CHOUDHARY @Bengaluru

MEDICAL students applying for National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) 2023, in Karnataka, are upset with the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) for overlooking loopholes that individuals have found with their applications.

Student-led organisations have asked KEA to hold back the results of PGET -2023 (Post Graduate Entrance Test) Round 2, as it is coinciding with All India NEET PG Round 3 seat allotments. Students have requested the authorities to postpone the result till October 6.

The aspiring candidates of NEET 2023 have alleged that many students have applied for the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) as well as KEA for PGET.

This is a cause of concern, as students who will secure a seat in both MCC and KEA rounds, will have to leave one seat vacant. In case they choose the all India NEET PG Round 3 seat, then the seat secured with KEA will go vacant. Since KEA has only two rounds for medical seat allotment, students will have to settle for any seat they receive. Since the round 2 is seat allotment is scheduled for this week, they might be deprived of better opportunities despite vacancies and merits.

Since they have to confirm seats in KEA Round 2 or will be removed from the entire process, many will have to settle.

To avoid these loopholes in the system, students have demanded KEA to hold Round-2 results until October 6, as it is the last day for MCC seat allotment students to report to colleges. This will allow vacancies to filter and give many students an option to secure better colleges. Speaking to TNIE, a student said, "Ten of us met the Executive Director of KEA on Saturday and the latter assured us that the current situation will be considered but we have very little hope. I want to get a better medical college but many are taking advantage of the situation." Students also demanded the examination authority to introduce a round 3 for PGET before the MOP-UP round.

Given the magnitude of the problem, students also plan to approach Dr Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education, on Monday to resolve the issue.

Governor flags off Wildlife Week with vintage vehicle rally, lauds forest staff

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

GOVERNOR Thaawarchand Gehlot lauded the exemplary efforts of the forest officers, and the department in the state for being ranked first for forest conservation and increasing forest cover. He also commended the work of the government in advancing critical conservation initiatives.

The Governor was speaking at the 69th Wildlife Week-2023 where he flagged off the "Vintage Vehicle Drive for Wildlife Conservation" at Raj Bhavan on Sunday.

Vintage cars participate in the drive for wildlife from Raj Bhavan to Bannerghatta in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

In his address, the Governor emphasised the longstanding discourse on safeguarding and preservation of animals that are enshrined in ancient scriptures. He spoke about the pressing need for the conservation of such invaluable species. He also promoted the coexistence of humans and wildlife.

At the rally, he spoke about the significant undertakings such as the Environment Protection Act, Forest Protection Act, National Wildlife Action Plan, Project Tiger, National Parks and Sanctuaries, and bio-spatial reserves for the protection of forests and wildlife in India. He said, "These initiatives play an instrumental role in rescuing species and preventing their extinction, helping our survival too."

Drawing a correlation between vintage cars and wildlife, Governor Gehlot expressed hope that these remarkable vintage vehicles will serve as catalysts for positive action for wildlife conservation.

At the inauguration of Wildlife Week, the Karnataka Forest Department collaborated with the Federation of Historic Vehicles of India to orchestrate a landmark vintage vehicle drive. This historic convoy comprised of meticulously preserved cars and motorcycles – served as a symbol of dedication to wildlife conservation.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

02nd October: Cancer is my sign of the day: very soon all our Cancerian friends could be in top position. Could I wish a very happy time to all wonderful Cancerians out there? The problem, though, is knowing what to do to make Cancerians happy. What they need most of all is security, and that comes without a price-tag!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You will undoubtedly do best to adopt a business like stance in practical matters, perhaps because it's far too easy to be sloppy and sentimental. I must say that if you are responsible for people at work, you should show them that you really do care.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
You're about to enter a more secretive phase, so you have a little time left to make those urgent communications and tell people your plans. It may not be that you'll be deliberately keeping information to yourself, just that for some reason the right words won't come out in the correct order!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You've been in top gear for some time now but, if it were possible to switch into an even higher gear, you'd do so this week. Think ahead and start to fill up your social diary, for friendly encounters will be central to your sense of well-being.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You will have to make an extra effort to see how other people are thinking and feeling. Don't just sympathise - you must also do what you can to reassure them. This means opening your heart to all close partners, and not judging them too harshly. Why not just accept that they feel the way they do, and leave it at that?

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
This is less a time for celebration, more a moment for cautious assessment of your achievements so far. It is, however, a time to continue to lay the foundations for future success. Today's stars urge you to complete all necessary chores, no matter how tedious they seem at first sight.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
The Sun is still shedding new light on a number of partnerships, but not for much longer and soon you will have to stand on your own feet. If you have been delaying deals and personal arrangements, procrastinate no longer. Time does not stand still, even if you do!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
The emphasis seems to be on personal affairs rather than professional, but don't expect other people to come to your rescue. Domestic chores may be especially boring today, but there are signs that relief will be on hand in about three or four days' time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
I know that certain colleagues have wound you up, but today could be a good time to broach certain practical matters. Don't use too many words, though. Stick to the bare facts and you won't go far wrong. You might even win respect from someone who used to put you down.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Recent professional setbacks can easily be turned into triumphs. Your best approach is not to confront other people, but to go about your own tasks with as great a dedication to your personal talents as possible. You may aim to impress without showing off.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Venus has been bringing its celestial protection to your domestic environment, allowing you to make the most of happy events, and even enabling you to gloss over any arguments. Today you may throw aside the mask of compromise and lay down the law - within reason!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You're in a long-term phase, one which is characterised by the need for wholesale reconstruction. Perhaps you can move the goal-posts, altering the rules of the game in your favour. You should now be drawing financial preparations to a close and preparing to solicit advice on the next stage.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Somebody, somewhere has taken your trust and goodwill for granted once too often. I know this sounds like the story of your life but, if the problem has been financial, I think you will soon be able to redress the balance. You might even make a small profit!

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

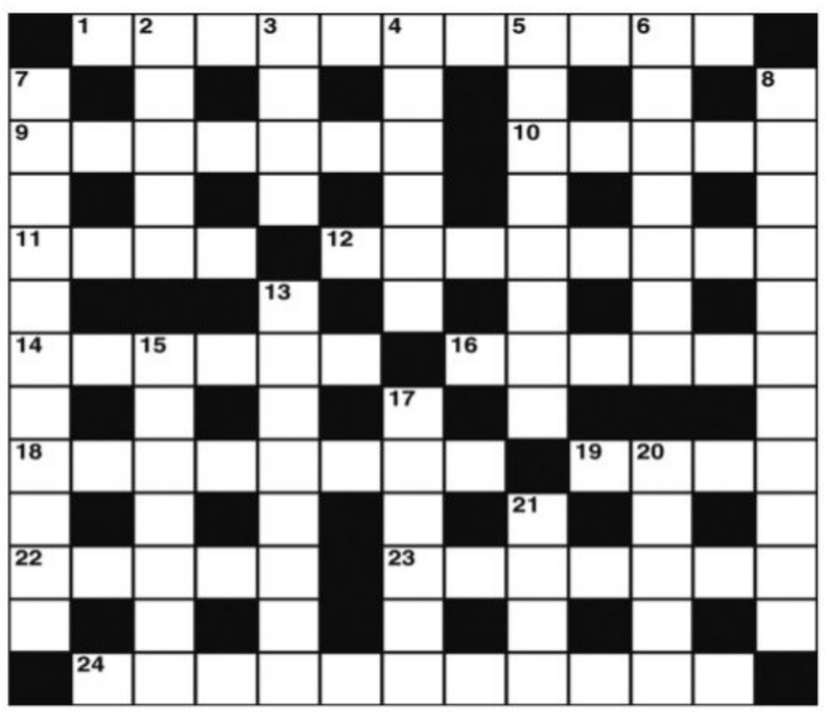
1				5			3	
	2	7			9	4		
9		5	3					6
		8	1				6	4
	3	2				5	9	
6	9				4	8		
5					3	2		7
		4	9			1	5	
	1			8				9

6	8	4	7	2	3	1	5	9
2	1	9	6	8	5	7	3	4
7	3	5	4	1	9	8	6	2
1	9	8	5	4	6	2	7	3
5	2	7	3	9	8	4	1	6
3	4	6	2	7	1	9	8	5
9	7	3	1	5	4	6	2	8
8	5	2	9	6	7	3	4	1
4	6	1	8	3	2	5	9	7

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Part of church service starting school day? (5,6)
9 Outworn garment finally put on by a painter (7)
10 Girl has left a subtle emanation (5)
11 Instructed to lay down their heads (4)
12 It can make a man hate what is repellent to him (8)
14 He may well appeal to the public (6)
16 There may be rhyme if not reason in such justice (6)
18 Describing a certain bird? (8)
19 A sporting investment aid (4)
22 Cloth that's soft being put on (5)
23 Payment subject to approval (7)
24 Fearfully rigid? (6,5)

DOWN

2 Force politician into clumsy lie (5)
3 Gunned down in the attempt (4)
4 Overdue books hidden (6)
5 Solving or dissolving produces it (8)
6 By endless work advanced to become rich (7)
7 Doctors take it to heart (11)
8 Craft of a service tailor? (5,6)
13 Reckon to make a hundred on the side - right? (8)
15 Out-of-date sort of chair taken into account (7)
17 Depart in confusion having talked foolishly (6)
20 It may be called rough and hearty (5)
21 List or lists (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Hassle, 4 Muscadel, 9 Skiers, 10 Acidrain, 12 Tame, 13 Drill, 14 Etui, 17 Total eclipse, 20 Fit as a fiddle, 23 Each, 24 Navel, 25 Lour, 28 Portrait, 29 Castle, 30 Resonant, 31 Lloyds.

Down: 1 Hesitate, 2 Shipmate, 3 Lore, 5 Uncultivated, 6 Code, 7 Dearth, 8 Lentil, 11 Proclamation, 15 Slain, 16 Aspic, 18 Adroitly, 19 Learners, 21 Temper, 22 Icarus, 26 Iron, 27 Rail.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

URLRA

SOTIH

CNEERO

NINMOI

Is that kibble on your uniform, Private? I want you to roll over 20 times!
Yes, Sergeant!
IF JACK RUSSELLS COULD JOIN THE ARMED SERVICES, THEY'D BE ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"_____ - _____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: TUNER ONION LENGTH MISFIT
Answer: After a day's travel to the small lodging business, they were staying — "INN" FOR THE NIGHT

A young woman is battling for life after being hit by a truck while trying to dodge traffic police on outer ring road in Mysuru on Sunday. The traffic police tried to stop the woman but she, in a bid to evade them, took a turn and was hit by a truck

Ex-principal loses ₹45L in cyber con

Senior citizen from Vijayanagara was hoping to start a private gas dealership

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

A 61-year-old retired principal of an ITI institute in Hosapete was defrauded of Rs 45,80,300 by a conman who claimed to be operating out of Mumbai. Nagendrappa repeatedly transferred money to the individual, who promised him a dealership of a private gas company.

He filed an FIR on September 30 at the Kottur police station in Vijayanagara district, as well as the cyber crime police station there, under the IT Act 2008 and IPC section 420.

A distraught Nagendrappa told TNIE, "I have nothing with me now. I have transferred all the money I had, in the hope that I would get the dealership of Go Gas and make good money through the business in my village."

Sharing details, Nagendrappa said he had browsed online and found out about a dealership available in Karnataka for Go Gas company in Mumbai. After he contacted the number provided on August 21, a man claiming to be Shashikanth Tiwari from Mumbai asked him to transfer a few lakhs of rupees through RTGS. "I was repeatedly asked to transfer money through Google Pay or RTGS for various reasons -- to get an NOC, for a permit etc, on different dates for a month. Each time I would be assured it was the last time I had to transfer money, and then I would get a call asking for money again. On September 22, I was repeatedly assured that it would be the final instalment and I transferred over Rs 5 lakh. After that, the caller's number was switched off."

For a week, the senior citizen repeatedly called the number from which Tiwari had spoken, but it was switched off. "All other modes of communication with me too were blocked. I realised I had been duped and approached police for help," he said.

Police have assured me they would track the conman through the bank account number used for the transactions, he added.

FEST AFTERMATH

Idols and other debris, which are yet to be cleared, choke Ulsoor Lake after Ganesha immersion, in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Youth nabbed for insulting Kannadigas

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 23-year-old youth, who allegedly posted derogatory remarks against Karnataka and Kannadigas, has been arrested by the Kodigehalli police. The accused has been identified as Niloy Mandal from West Bengal. A resident of RT Nagar, Mandal was working in a private company in Kodigehalli.

Police said Mandal had posted derogatory messages about Karnataka on his social media account, and the posts had gone viral. People had tagged the police demanding legal action against him. Hence, a suo motu case was registered at Kodigehalli station and the accused was traced and arrested on Saturday. Mandal, in his recent social media post, stated that Karnataka was nothing without Bengaluru, Kannadigas were uneducated and it is the most useless state in India. The post was filled with abusive words.

Man's condition critical with injuries to head

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

THE police added that the couple came 15 days ago from Mandya to visit their son, who works as a software engineer in the city. Krishna, who works as a driver at a private firm, is currently being treated at a private hospital on Bannerghatta road and is reportedly in critical condition, as he has sustained injuries in the head, abdomen and leg.

Kumaraswamy Layout traffic police have booked the actor under various IPC sections.

Nagabhushana has acted in supporting roles in several Kannada movies and he shot to fame with 'Badava Rascal', in which he was featured along with popular actor Dhananjaya aka Dolly Dhananjaya.

Family of 3 from B'luru drowns in Mysuru dist

Mysuru: A family of three from Bengaluru drowned in a canal in Sargur taluk on Saturday evening. The police said the incident took place at Changowdanahalli village in the taluk. The deceased are Mohammad Kapil (42), his wife Shavara Banu (35) and daughter Shahira Banu (18). The family lived in Jayanagar in Bengaluru and had visited their native to attend the last rites of a relative.

5 hurt as helium balloons explode at b'day party

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FOUR children and an adult sustained burns when helium balloons burst after touching a live wire during a birthday celebration in Belathur around 9.30 pm on Saturday night.

The injured are Vijay Aditya Kumar, an HAL employee, his daughter Sohila (3), son Dhyan Chand (7), neighbours Ishan (2) and Sanjay (8).

Vijay's house was being decorated with helium balloons for his daughter's birthday. While the balloons were being shifted to the terrace of the house, they came in contact with an electric wire, triggering a blast. The neighbours rushed the injured to Victoria Hospital. All the five are stable, police said.

Police suspect that the balloons were filled with hydrogen since helium is a non-inflammable gas.

Man tries to open emergency exit of flight, booked at KIA

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

A 36-year-old flyer, who attempted to open the emergency exit of an Indigo flight to Bengaluru from Nagpur on Saturday night, was booked by the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) police on Sunday. He has been released on station bail.

According to sources, Swapnil Holey of Maharashtra tried to open the exit door on flight No 6E 6803. The FIR was booked on Sunday morning following a complaint registered at the airport police station on behalf of the airline by Anu P Tom, Assistant Manager, Interglobe Aviation Limited.

According to the FIR, Holey was seated on seat 5E. "He planned to travel to Bangkok from Bengaluru. He had boarded the flight at Nagpur to reach KIA and take his international flight from here," the copy said. The flight was about to take off by 10.15 pm on September 30 and he is said to have tried to open the door around that time. The flight reached Bengaluru at 11. 55 pm after which Holey was escorted by airline staff to the KIA police station.

The FIR has been booked under IPC Section 336. As per this rule, "Whoever does any act so rashly or negligently so as to endanger human life or the personal safety of others, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine of Rs 250 or with both."

Holey has been released on bail, police said.

The issue of opening emergency exits on flights became a raging controversy after Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya 'accidentally' opened the door of an Indigo flight from Chennai to Tiruchirappalli during the boarding on December 10 last year. A few more incidents have been widely reported since then.

> He (Swapnil Holey of Maharashtra) planned to travel to Bangkok from Bengaluru. He had boarded the flight at Nagpur to reach KIA and take his international flight from here
>
> — FIR filed on behalf of Indigo

Man stabs auto driver

Bagalur police arrested a man for attempting to murder an auto driver suspecting that the latter had his wife's pictures. The incident took place in Chokkanahalli on Saturday. The injured, Arokya Das, was friends with accused Nagaraju's wife Geetha, police said. On Saturday, Geetha asked Das to come to her house. When he was entering the house, Nagaraju confronted him. The argument escalated and Nagaraju stabbed Das with a knife in the chest. Police booked an attempt-to-murder case. ENS

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

Sri. D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Karnataka

2022 - 2023

Gandhi Grama Puraskara
Award Distribution Ceremony

And

Swachh Survekshana Grameena - 2023 State-level Award Distribution Ceremony

AWARD DISTRIBUTION BY

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka

SPECIAL INVITEE

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka

EMINENT PRESENCE

Sri Priyank Kharge
Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development & Panchayath Raj, IT & BT, Govt. of Karnataka

PRESIDED BY

Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly
Shivajinagar Constituency

02.10.2023, Monday | 12:30PM | Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha

All are cordially invited

"To protect and respect our vibrant culture and tradition," is a Fundamental Duty of every citizen. This is affirmed by our constitution

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The state GST collection again registered an excellent jump totalling Rs 11,693 crore this month, a 20% increase as compared to September last year. Karnataka's GST collection is second only to the topper Maharashtra, which recorded Rs 25,137 crore.

BSY, SON BACK SHAMANUR ON LINGAYAT OFFICERS

Say govt giving posts on caste basis; DKS suggests Congress leader should sort out matter with chief minister

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

THE Congress, which had made a big noise over the BJP letting down Veerashaiva Lingayats and ousting community leader B S Yediyurappa from the chief minister's post in the run-up to the May 2023 assembly polls, is now being accused of ignoring the community's bureaucrats and not giving them suitable postings.

Veteran Congress leader and All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha president **Shamanur Shivashankarappa** raised the issue recently, creating ripples in political circles. At a community event, he observed that whenever Lingayats were chief ministers -- S Nijalingappa, B S Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai -- bureaucrats from the community got plum postings, but are getting a raw deal in the Siddaramaiah government. He cited the lack of unity among sub-castes as the reason. But Siddaramaiah denied it, saying no community is getting a raw deal.

Yediyurappa and his son B Y Vijayendra have backed Shamanur. "Shamanur said the community's officers got a raw deal in postings, which is a reality. The solution is for the community to take it up unitedly. I urge all leaders to work in this regard," Yediyurappa told reporters in New Delhi on Sunday. "The Congress leader revealed how the system is becoming rotten, with caste being preferred while giving postings. It is unconstitutional. Shamanur is honest and raised his voice for justice," remarked Vijayendra. Interestingly, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar suggested that Shamanur should sit with Siddaramaiah and set the issue right. "As president of a community, he has information about postings of officers. The government cannot give posts on the basis of caste. The CM is trying to balance everyone," he said.

He suggested that ministers should strike a social engineering balance while giving postings. "This has been happening. Shamanur is a party leader and there is pressure on him. Some officers have requested ministers for postings. There is nothing wrong in it," he observed.

"We respect the feelings of Shamanur Appaji, and we seven Lingayat ministers in the cabinet will discuss it," said Women and Child Welfare Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar.

Meanwhile, there are murmurs that a Veerashaiva Lingayat leader should be made chief minister, with a community leader insisting that former chief minister Jagadish Shettar be given the DyCM post. But former minister H Vishwanath condemned Shamanur for "speaking like a community representative". "There are seven Veerashaiva Lingayat ministers. Let them get a majority of the community's votes and become chief minister. This time, it is because of Siddaramaiah' leadership," he told reporters in Belagavi.

All four states must discuss Cauvery to form distress formula, says Krishna

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

Former CM SM Krishna and Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, with writer Dr Narahalli Balasubramanya, during the release of a book on Krishna -- 'Nelada Siri' by N Jagadeesh -- at Chitrakala Parishath in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

FORMER chief minister and senior BJP leader SM Krishna called for the formation of a distress formula, after consulting and discussing it among four states (Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry), in a bid to resolve the Cauvery water dispute.

Speaking to reporters at Chitrakala Parishath on Sunday, Krishna said the matter has to be discussed among all four states and a suitable decision taken. This is the only permanent solution. He said the Cauvery dispute erupts each time there is less rain. When there is less rain, pressure on both the states (Karnataka and Tamil Nadu) increases, he said.

Recalling his days as CM, Krishna said even then there was a Cauvery dispute. The then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee tried to resolve it by convincing chief ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. But it could not be resolved, and ultimately, it went to the Supreme Court. Appreciating the state government's move on consulting retired judges, including former CJI Justice MN Venkatachalaiah, Krishna said the government has to take their opinion in future too.

Speaking about farmers, who are protesting in the Cauvery basin, Krishna said it is a natural reaction and they are expressing their emotions.

Later, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said Krishna is a senior veteran leader. "We take his suggestions," he said, adding that their government will take suggestions from anyone irrespective of political party. "If their suggestions are pro-state, we will take them," he added.

The matter has to be discussed among all four states and a suitable decision taken. This is the only permanent solution — SM Krishna, Former CM

We take his (SM Krishna's) suggestions... If suggestions are pro-state, we will take them — DK Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister

Kodagu gets moderate to heavy rain

ENS @Madikeri

SEVERAL parts of Kodagu recorded moderate to heavy rainfall in the past three days. The inflow to the Harangi reservoir is picking up, following bountiful rain in the catchment areas of the Cauvery river.

The average rainfall in the past three days has touched over 45 mm even as heavy rain continued to lash Madikeri on Sunday. The water level at Harangi Reservoir has increased to 2,855.98 out of the full capacity of 2,859 feet. While the outflow to the rivers as on Sunday was 700 cusecs, the inflow slowly picked up to 625 cusecs. The outflow into the canal was 950 cusecs.

Rain disrupted normalcy in several areas. Power disruptions were recorded across Virajpet, with trees being uprooted and electric poles damaged in the heavy rainfall. The CESC staff concerned are striving to fix the power lines. Road blocks were witnessed at Bhagamandala and Kondangeri as the roads were flooded following heavy rainfall.

Madikeri taluk recorded 75.87 mm rainfall in 24 hours ending on Sunday morning. Virajpet and Somwarpet taluks recorded 48.72 mm and 22.7 mm rainfall, respectively. The district has recorded 1,989 mm of rainfall this year, which is still a deficit as it had recorded 3,174 mm rainfall during the same period last year.

A tree, uprooted due to rain, blocks a road in Virajpet on Sunday | EXPRESS

Confident LoP, state BJP chief will be named soon, says BSY

ENS @ Bengaluru

ADMITTING to the delay in appointing a new state president for the BJP in Karnataka and the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, former chief minister BS Yediyurappa on Sunday expressed confidence that the party bosses will take a call on these matters soon.

"All these things are left to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP national president JP Nadda. We will abide by their decision. I will not propose anybody's name on my own, but will give them suggestions if they are sought. It is true that there was a discussion about the appointments, and also that it is getting delayed. The central leaders will decide on all these issues soon and give the responsibility to a suitable person," he said in New Delhi.

Back in Bengaluru, while taking part in the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign, Yediyurappa's son and BJP state vice-president and Shikaripura MLA **BY Vijayendra** observed that there must be reasons for the delay in the appointment of Leader of the Opposition and the state party president by the central leaders. However, he expressed confidence that the high command will take a decision soon. It may be noted that Yediyurappa had been lobbying for the BJP state president post for Vijayendra, and the latter too is keen to take up the job.

Congress govt has been a den of confusion: Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Haveri

THERE is no coordination among ministers in the incumbent Congress government, which has been a den of confusion so far, alleged former chief minister **Basavaraj Bommai** on Sunday.

Talking to reporters at Hurlikoppa village in the Shiggaon Assembly constituency on Sunday, Bommai said the ministers were making contradictory statements every day and it shows all is not well in the government. There is a lack of coordination among ministers and there is no cordiality in the Cabinet, he added.

"The Congress MLAs are unhappy due to the absence of coordination in the Cabinet. The people of the state do not feel the presence of an elected government. Drought relief is yet to reach farmers. Within four months, the government has lost the people's trust. The chief minister has no control over his ministers," he charged.

Confusion over Cauvery row

Bommai alleged that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said one thing at the meeting of legal experts, and another thing in public over the Cauvery water row. "On Saturday, he had said in the meeting of legal luminaries that the government would appeal and stop the release of water to Tamil Nadu. But outside, the CM reiterated about going to file an appeal, but ruled out the stoppage of water to the neighboring state. Asked why, Siddaramaiah claimed that it amounted to contempt of court, and the government would be dismissed and the dam would be taken over. This statement has been made even before going to the Supreme Court. If the CM has such a feeling, the apex court would ask Karnataka to release water to Tamil Nadu. Did CM Siddaramaiah lack that knowledge? The government had been following a dual policy and the people have now understood that this government cannot save the state's land and water," he alleged.

Meanwhile, referring to Shamanur Shivashankarappa's statement that there is no protection for Lingayat officers in this government, he said, Shamanur is a senior Congress MLA and president of All-India Veerashaiva Mahasabha. The chief minister must respond to him.

A sacred ritual, as part of the 'Cauvery Maha Aarathi', at Kushalnagar in Kodagu district | EXPRESS

Sacred ritual honouring Cauvery aims at protecting river ecosystem

ENS @Madikeri

THE looming water scarcity and the need to protect rivers are evident from the ongoing Cauvery dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It was over 12 years ago that a few organisations from across Karnataka and Tamil Nadu urged residents to preserve and protect River Cauvery from its birthplace in Talacauvery to Poompuhar in Tamil Nadu. 'Cauvery Maha Aarathi' , an initiative started in 2010 to create awareness, will complete 150 months of continuing rituals to the river this month.

"Cauvery was offered puja on the full moon day for the 149th month on September 29. The ritualistic puja is a sacrosanct reminder to everyone to protect and prevent pollution of the river. If the Cauvery is not protected, the water crisis will worsen, and we want to create awareness about the same," explained Chandramohan, a member of the Cauvery Maha Arathi team and convenor of the Cauvery Swachata Andolana forum.

The 149th puja was performed on the banks of the Cauvery at Kushalnagar and the event highlighted the need to look at the river as sacred in order to protect her. "For the past 12 years, we have been creating awareness among locals and tourists against river pollution. A few renowned seers suggested that we start something similar to Ganga Aarathi and the initiative began," he said, adding that apart from the ritual puja on every full moon, a 'yatra' from Talacauvery to Poompuhar is also held annually.

The ritual has also spread to the banks of the river at Ramanathapura in Hassan district. "Seers and a few citizens from Karnataka and Tamil Nadu visit Talacauvery every year and start off the 'yatra' towards Poompuhar. They visit all the important places located by the banks of Cauvery from Kodagu to Tamil Nadu, and spread awareness amongst the public to protect the river," he added. The 'yatra' will be carried out by a group of seers this year to coincide with the 150th full moon day, and the Cauvery Maha Arathi ritual will be held on October 20.

K'taka woos US-based Kannadigas to invest in state

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE state government has approached two major Kannadiga associations in the US, including the Naavu Vishwa Kannadigaru Association (NAVIKA), and the Association of Kannada Kootas of America (AKKA), to invest in Karnataka. Industries Minister **MB Patil**, who is currently touring the US, urged them to come to the state and invest, for which the state government will extend full support.

Patil took part in a cultural event organised by NAVIKA, where he emphasised his vision for Karnataka. Over 100 members, including entrepreneurs, were present at the event, who were urged to consider investments in their home state. "I am excited about the opportunities for collaboration and progress that are ahead. Together, we can achieve great things," he said.

NAVIKA is a non-profit organisation promoting Karnataka's cultural heritage in the US. The event was attended by several industry leaders, along with John Kreeting, Mayor of Frisco -- a city in Texas and part of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area. The event was part of a 12-day United States visit that Patil has embarked upon with a delegation of senior officials of the Department of Commerce and Industries to attract investments in Karnataka," a release said.

Old-age pension will be hiked in next budget: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah announced that in the next budget, the old-age pension will be hiked from the existing Rs 1,200 per month. He was speaking at an event organised by the departments of Women and Child Welfare and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens on the International Day of Older Persons on Sunday.

Earlier in the event, Minister for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens Lakshmi Hebbalkar told Siddaramaiah, "There are over 48 lakh people aged above 60 in the state and getting the old-age pension of Rs 1,200 per month. The elderly have sought that it be increased to Rs 2,000."

Siddaramaiah said the government will increase the old-age pension in the state budget 2024-25, but did not confirm what the revised pension amount would be.

"We must treat our senior citizens with respect. We must follow their ideals. That is the biggest honour we can give them," he said. Everyone should live as a 'universal man' and leave this world as a 'universal man, he added.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah felicitates a senior citizen at Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Alliance with BJP best bet, JDS leaders tell confused cadre

ENS @ Bengaluru

JANATA Dal party cadre, built robustly over decades and having a presence in almost all gram panchayats, taluk panchayats, zilla panchayats, Town Municipal Councils and City Municipal Councils, are finding themselves in a piquant situation.

The JDS stitching up an alliance with the BJP, once an arch rival, has thrown many off-balance, and they are confused about their future. There are also muted expressions of disagreement from the party rank and file. Party supremo HD Deve Gowda and former CM HD Kumaraswamy are having to deal with it just ahead of the Lok Sabha polls coming up in eight months. At a meeting on Sunday, Gowda took an oath of loyalty to the party from the leaders. Attempting to explain the tie-up, Kumaraswamy said, "This alliance is a solution to the burning issues faced by the state. I will retire from politics if these issues are not resolved in the next five years." Turning emotional, he said, "This meeting is testimony that our party is strong and united. I will repay the debt of this land. We have not kept anyone in the dark on the alliance. The decision taken by the party leadership is far-sighted, and the interest of the party lies in it. We are all committed to this decision and will not heed the propaganda being spread by those who are against the party."

MLC B M Farooq swore to stick to the party. "Did any problem happen to minorities during the BJP-JDS coalition government? Kumaraswamy provided many facilities, and minorities were not wronged by the JDS."

"The alliance is not for my own selfish reasons, but in the interest of the country. It will be good for the state. Whatever needs to be done to save our water, I will do it. With the help of the central government, I will solve all problems," said Kumaraswamy.

Gowda attacks DKS

Unleashing a verbal tirade against Vokkaliga leader DK Shivakumar for conspiring to weaken the JDS, Gowda said, "DK ji, your bad political game will not affect me. You know that nothing can be done against our party. We will give a fitting answer. Today, Kumaraswamy has given a strong message."

IBRAHIM SKIPS TOP JDS LEADERS' MEETING. HINTING AT HIS EXIT FROM PARTY SOON

BENGALURU: JDS state president **CM Ibrahim** on Sunday skipped the party leaders' meeting at former CM HD Kumaraswamy's farmhouse at Kethaganahalli near Bidadi, indicating that he might quit the party soon. The meeting was convened to pacify MLAs, MLCs and other senior leaders of the party who are not happy with the JDS' alliance with BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Party sources said even party patriarch and former PM HD Deve Gowda called Ibrahim over phone, but could not make him change his mind. Ibrahim told Gowda that he will take a decision after meeting his followers on October 16, the sources added. Former MLA YSV Datta, who attended the meeting, said he felt sorry for Ibrahim, who could not understand Gowda despite knowing him for a long time. "I respect Ibrahim, but I am not happy with his decision not to attend today's meeting. My sympathies are with him. There is no question of letting the minorities down as JDS will not compromise with BJP over ideology," he reasoned. Former minister HD Revanna too said there is no question of leaving Ibrahim and letting down Muslims. "Ibrahim has said he will not join Congress. He is one of the few leaders who had a long association with Gowda," he added. Ibrahim quit Congress and joined JDS just before the May 10 Assembly elections this year. He was made the party state president as JDS wanted to attract Muslim votes. But the ploy did not work as the party won just 19 seats. **ENS**

Panic gripped passengers of the Tambaram-Chintadripet local at Guindy station in Chennai on Sunday after smoke erupted from the first coach, around 4.30 pm, as the train pulled into Guindy station. Upon inspection, it was found that the smoke resulted from pressure fluctuations within the braking system, which hindered wheel movement

END OF ROAD FOR OLD VEHICLES

With the Vehicle Scrappage Policy kicking in, vehicles over 15 years old will have to join the scrap heap at the crushing facility being set up at Devanahalli

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA'S first Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) will be set up at Devanahalli. While the country has over 60 RVSF, this will be the first in the state. In the coming days, all government vehicles that are over 15 years old and ones that do not pass the fitness test will be scrapped at the RVSF.

The state transport department has given approval to Mahindra MSTC Recyling Pvt Ltd to set up the scrapping facility, where the public can scrap old unfit vehicles on voluntary basis. "The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) in 2021 launched the Voluntary Vehicle-Fleet Modernization Programme aimed at creating an ecosystem for phasing out old unsafe, polluting vehicles, and replacing them with newer, safe and fuel-efficient vehicles," said Transport Commissioner Yogeesh AM.

"The vehicle scrappage policy is win-win for all stakeholders -- it creates an ecosystem for phasing out unfit and polluting vehicles from state roads, and to meet this objective, state-of-the-art scrapping and recycling units are needed," he said.

The rule mandates that vehicles can be scrapped only at the RVSF and will not go to local scrap dealers in the unorganized sector, who used to do the job unscientifically, he added. Department officials estimate that nearly 15 lakh vehicles are fit for scrapping in Karnataka.

Experts and citizens point out that the scrapping policy will lead to a rise in corruption, as RTOs are empowered to issue fitness certificates. Under-the-table dealings will rise and middlemen will increase, they alleged, and demanded that the government should clearly define the process of issuing certificates to ensure transparency.

Emissions an eco threat

"The world is under severe danger of a climate crisis. India has pledged to reach net-zero emissions by 2070 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in 2021. This can be achieved only by taking some strict measures such as adopting clean and renewable energy, priority for public transport over private vehicles, and fuel-efficient vehicles with the latest technologies. Hence, scrapping of 15-year-old and unfit vehicles is a good move," said Akshay Heblikar, director, Eco-Watch.

Sharing details on the different types of gases emitted by vehicles that are harmful to humans and the environment, Heblikar said, "Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is one of the primary constituents of the vehicle's tailpipe emissions. Motor vehicles are estimated to contribute nearly 24 per cent of the world's direct CO_2 emissions. While these may not pose any immediate health hazard, their increasing build-up catalyses global warming, furthering climate change. Carbon monoxide (CO) affects the body's ability to absorb oxygen. Studies have found that CO_2 emissions fell by 86 per cent during the Covid-19 lockdown due to restrictions on vehicular movement. The transport sector contributes to a third of India's Particulate Matter (PM) pollution."

In addition to reducing emissions, scrap material from old vehicles becomes cheap raw material alternative for the steel industry. Using scrap metal from old vehicles helps create a circular economy and boosts the steel industry, he explained.

Scrapping old and unfit vehicles will certainly help in reducing vehicular emissions that are a threat to the environment. It will also help save a lot of fuel as new vehicles have better technologies and are more fuel-efficient. The cost and resources of maintaining old vehicles is much higher than new ones, he said.

"Not all old vehicles are 'unfit'. Many vehicles which are well maintained with emissions under control need not be scrapped," Heblikar added.

BIG PICTURE

Fewer motor vehicles the goal

While the intent of taking unfit and polluting vehicles off the roads is laudable, the goal must be to move towards fewer motor vehicles and a truly green future. Like in France, vehicle owners can be given incentives to get electric bicycles instead of buying new cars, said urban mobility expert Shreya Gadepalli.

"The electric bicycle industry, that has thus far languished in comparison to electric two-wheeler players due to lack of good incentives, will get a strong fillip if such a scheme is instituted. Electric bicycles are a lot greener than electric scooters and cars, and come with added health benefits," she said.

A reliable, comfortable and affordable bus service that can take anyone anywhere they want, whenever they want, is the need of the hour. This will encourage people to scrap their old vehicles and live car-free lives, she added.

Assess impact of scrapping vehicles

Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC) Prof D Rajasekhar said the primary motive of scrapping vehicles is to encourage buying of new cars and making space for new vehicles to enter the market. "There is no doubt this will stimulate automobile market sales. Along with benefiting the automobile sector, it is expected to deliver economic benefits to the citizens, that include job creation. The government can expect an increase in tax revenue and economic growth," he said.

The scrapping policy will adversely affect the used car market, as the cost of a car will fall drastically close to its age of scrapping, and people will prefer newer ones. For instance, a 10-year-old car that is sold in the second-hand market for Rs 2 lakh might come down to Rs 1 lakh after vehicle scrapping picks up pace.

The impact of scrapping old and unfit vehicles, reduction in pollution and other factors need assessment. Vehicle scrapping is likely to benefit densely populated cities like Bengaluru and districts like Kalaburagi or Kodagu, where people will continue to use their old vehicles.

All government vehicles that are 15 years old need to be scrapped mandatorily, while there is no compulsion on the public, and choice to scrap private vehicles is 'voluntary'.
Prof D Rajasekhar, Director, ISEC

People would prefer to sell their vehicles to people in villages instead of scrapping, if the sale fetches them more money than the incentive offered by the Certificate of Deposit, that gives concession on road tax while purchasing a new vehicle.
Yogeesh AM, Transport Commissioner

India is the world's fourth most significant greenhouse gas emitter, contributing almost 8 per cent of all global emissions. It ranks third among countries with the worst air quality. This is mainly because vehicular emissions are not strictly regulated though there are rules.
Akshay Heblikar, environmentalist

While the intent of taking unfit and polluting vehicles off the roads is laudable, the goal must be to move towards fewer motor vehicles and a truly green future.
Shreya Gadepalli, urban mobility expert

Further, scrapping of vehicles is likely to be high in bigger cities where disposable income is high and people would opt for new vehicles, Rajasekhar said.

He said vehicle owners would prefer to sell to people in villages, instead of scrapping, if the sale fetches them more money than the incentive offered (Certificate of Deposit). For instance, if an old vehicle fetches Rs 1 lakh in the second-hand market, and the incentive for the same vehicle is around Rs 10,000, the choice would be to sell it than scrap it.

Criteria for scrapping vehicles

- Vehicles which have not renewed Certificate of Registration (RC) and which fail the fitness test
- Are 15 years old and above, owned by the govt/PSUs/govt agencies/autonomous councils etc
- Damaged due to fire, riot, natural disaster, accident or any calamity, following which registered owner self-certifies it as scrap
- Manufacturing rejects, test vehicles, prototypes, vehicles damaged during transportation from vehicle original equipment manufacturer to dealers, unsold or unregistered vehicles as may be certified by the vehicle original equipment manufacturer
- Auctioned, impounded or abandoned vehicles by any enforcement agency
- Any other vehicle voluntarily offered to a Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility for scrapping by the owner

Fitness test

All commercial vehicles should mandatorily take up the fitness test at the Automated Testing Station at RTOs every year, when their registration has to be renewed. If the vehicle fails the test, it will be sent for scrapping. For fear that their vehicles will be crushed of they do not pass the fitness test, commercial vehicle owners are likely to invest in higher maintenance, which is expected to keep emissions under control.

All private vehicles must go for re-registeration to their RTOs after completing 15 years, and undergo a fitness test. If they clear the test, registration will be renewed for another five years and the same process will have to be repeated every five years.

Finding your RVSF

According to Karnataka's Registered Vehicle Scrapping Policy, 2022, initially there should be at least one RVSF centre at the divisional level. Permission has been granted to Mahindra to set up one centre at Devanahalli. Permission to set up two more centres, in Tumakuru and Koppal, will be granted soon, according to transport officials. People can search for their nearby RVSF on the Vaahan portal.

Process before scrapping

- Citizens can take vehicles to RVSF, after ensuring there are no police cases, traffic fines or other litigation against them
- RVSF will apply to RTO for de-registration of the vehicle
- Once approved by RTO, vehicle will be scrapped and owner will get a Certificate of Deposit (CoD), followed by a Certificate of Vehicle Scrapping to certify the vehicle is scrapped

At the RVSF

- Vehicle is scrapped in an eco-friendly process, including hazardous wastes
- Each component, like tyres, glass, plastic, grease, oil, metal etc will be separated and recycled/disposed of

Using CoD for tax concession

- CoD is the evidence of transfer of ownership of the vehicle
- It is a necessary and sufficient document for the owner to avail incentives and benefits for purchase of a new vehicle, as may be declared from time to time by the government
- Citizens can get a new vehicle registered against submission of CoD. According to the Registered Vehicle Scrapping Policy of Karnataka 2022, the concession in motor vehicle tax shall be equivalent to 25 per cent of the tax paid on scrapping vehicles in case of non-transport vehicles, and 15 per cent in case of transport vehicles in the state
- This concession shall be available up to 8 years in case of transport vehicles, and up to 15 years in case of non-transport vehicles; unused CoD can be traded

Scrapping of govt vehicles

There are nearly 15,000 government vehicles that are over 15 years old and should be scrapped. As these vehicles are attached to crucial departments like fire services, police, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, scrapping them in one go will affect regular services. Officials have appealed to MoRTH to allow scrapping of government vehicles in a phased manner, said Yogeesh.

Government has no plans to close Defence PSUs: Giridhar Aramane

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

DEFENCE Secretary Giridhar Aramane said here on Sunday that the government has no plans to close any Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSUs). In fact, it gave 95 per cent of the orders to Indian industries last year to generate employment, he pointed out.

The government has allocated 75 per cent of the orders to Indian industries, which will increase after this year's budget.

After inspecting the BEML Mysuru plant and launching the ₹Swachhta Hi Sewa ' campaign here, he said, "I hope Indian companies are equipped to measure up to the expectations of the Prime Minister."

He said Narendra Modi told him in December 2021 that if they want to provide employment to Indians, it is essential to spend money on Indian industries and manufacturing within the country.

He said the Mysuru BEML unit will not be closed as long as it remains a PSU. On the BEML unit in KGF, he said that too will not be closed till it is profitable and viable.

On steps taken to encourage R&D activities, he said the Defence Research Development Organisation is the primary agency that conducts research in the defence sector. The government has allocated Rs 25,000 crore for research activities among PSUs, startups and private companies.

He said they are also thinking of launching the Athithi scheme, where the focus will be on complex defence technologies, where higher grants will be provided to private companies. The defence ministry has tied up with the R&D ecosystem of US industries to come up with new innovations in the defence sector, he added. He said BEML has a great potential in the Metro rail business and Railways, which is seeing a rapid expansion of Vande Bharat services. The central government is converting all tracks into high speed and electric, which will give scope for BEML to supply to the Railways, he added.

He said there are huge opportunities in the defence sector for companies like BEML that have alert management and staff. He said the BEML and its CMD should identify areas where they can achieve excellence and said efficiency and productivity should be maintained.

I hope Indian companies are equipped to measure up to the expectations of the Prime Minister
Giridhar Aramane, Defence Secretary

EXPRESS READ

Naidu to stage hunger strike in prison

Vijayawada: TDP national president and former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu will stage a hunger strike in Rajamahendravaram central prison, where he is lodged following his arrest in the AP State Skill Development Corporation case, protesting the unconstitutional rule of CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Naidu's wife Bhuvaneswari would sit on hunger strike outside the prison, where they are camping, while their son Lokesh would sit to protest at party MP K Ravindra Kumar's residence in Delhi. TDP AP unit chief K Atchannaidu, in a statement on Sunday, said the protest would be on Gandhi Jayanti.

Tirumala temple to remain closed on Oct 28

Tirupati: The Srivari temple would be closed for eight hours owing to partial Lunar eclipse on the wee hours of October 29. The Tirumala temple will remain closed on the night of October 28 and reopened on October 29. According to the TTD, the partial Chandra Grahanam will be witnessed between 1:05 am and 2:22 am on October 29. As such the temple doors will be closed at 7:05 pm on October 28. The temple doors will be reopened at 3:15 am on October 29 after performing Suddhi and Suprabhata seva in Ekantam. The TTD said Sahasra Deepalankara Seva, differently abled and senior citizens darshan stands cancelled on October 28 in view of the early closure.

Confusion over Google Map, 2 docs drown

Kodungallur: Two doctors lost their lives when the car in which they were travelling using the Google Maps navigation app along with three others plunged into the Thekkathuruth river in Gothuruth, near Kodungallur, around 1am on Sunday. The deceased, Dr Advaith, 29, of Thattamala, Kollam, and Dr Ajmal, 29, of Mathilakam, Kodungallur, worked at a private hospital in Kodungallur. "It was raining heavily when the accident took place. Google Map alerted them to take left, but they went straight and drove into the river," said the police.

Gol Gumbaz still not part of UNESCO sites

FIROZ ROZINDAR @ Vijayapura

THE historic Gol Gumbaz, known for having the biggest dome, has missed out on getting into UNESCO heritage site list again.

Interestingly, Chennakesava Temple of Belur in Hassan district, Hoysaleswara temple of Halebidu, and Somanathapura temple of T Narasipura of Mysuru district have found their way into the list of UNESCO heritage sites this year.

Despite the fact that Gol Gumbaz is one of the ancient and historic monuments built over 350 years ago, it failed to find a place in the list.

The erstwhile Bijapur Sultanate, present-day Vijayapura district, was ruled over two centuries by the Adil Shah dynasty, who built dozens of monuments during their era. The Archeological Survey of India (ASI) has declared at least 83 different small and big monuments as protected monuments. "Of these, there are at least ten big monuments including the famous whispering gallery, the Gol Gumbaz. This monument certainly deserves to get a place in the UNESCO heritage site list," said Abdulgani Imaratwale, a senior historian and writer.

Speaking to *TNIE*, he said it will be a great injustice to the rich, diverse and pluralistic history of the ancient city if the monument, which is known for its secular credentials, fails to become part of UNESCO'S heritage sites. Meanwhile, a senior ASI official told this newspaper that they have been pushing the name of Gol Gumbaz to get listed in the sites of UNESCO, he said.

JSP-TDP alliance will defeat Jagan: Pawan Kalyan

ENS @ Vijayawada

JANA Sena Chief Pawan Kalyan asserted that it will be the alliance of JSP and TDP that will come to power in State after ensuing elections.

Launching the fourth phase of his Vaarahi Yatra from Avanigadda in Krishna district on Sunday, the JSP chief said the defeat of Jagan in 2024 is a certainty and that the JSP-TDP alliance coming to power is even more certain.

Reiterating that JSP's ultimate goal is dethroning power, the actor-turned-politician explained that for this purpose only he has been stating that he would not allow a split in the anti-YSRC vote and has taken steps in that direction. "For the future of the state and for the future of people and their children, bidding adieu to Jagan and welcoming JSP-TDP combine is necessary," he asserted.

Interestingly, Pawan Kalyan, who after his announcement of poll pact with TDP after meeting Chandrababu Naidu in Rajamahendravaram Central Jail, had asserted that he is not coming out of NDA, observed that in the larger interests of the state, he has to make a choice and can not remain a fence sitter. "If I go alone or with BJP, I may get votes, but how many? It might not be enough to come to power in 2024 elections. I don't want to take any chances, for your sake. JSP and TDP will go together in 2024 elections and form the government in the larger interest of the people," he said. On Chandrababu Naidu, he said, "I had differences with Chandrababu Naidu earlier, but they were on policy matters only like the size of the capital, special category status. They were never personal. I strongly believe that we might not have differences this time. I sincerely hope that he will will overcome the cases against him."

PM announces Nat'l Turmeric Board in T'gana

G JANARDHANA RAO/ S NAGARAJA RAO @Visakhapatnam/Kadapa

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi announcing the formation of a National Turmeric Board in Nizamabad of neighbouring Telangana, a poll promise made ahead of the elections, has evoked good response from the farmers in the State.

PM Modi made the announcement during a public meeting in Mahbubnagar, Telangana on Sunday. It may be noted that turmeric is grown widely in Rayalaseema districts and agency areas of the erstwhile Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts. The formation of a turmeric board has been a long pending demand for several decades. Though the announcement was made keeping Telangana elections in mind, Rythu sangham leaders said the board will be beneficial to a large number of turmeric growers. Of the 80 per cent turmeric produced in India, Andhra Pradesh accounts for 40%.

The Turmeric Board will help in regulating the prices. It will ensure the spice is sold at a uniform price across the country. Farmers will benefit due to availability of quality seed, warehouse etc. In fact, Mydukuru turmeric variety will get global recognition.

Kadapa CPI leader G Chandra hailed the decision to set up the board. "However, it should not be an election stunt and steps should be taken to implement it," he said.

EDITORIAL

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty

Mahatma Gandhi

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS TO TACKLE RISING DENGUE THREAT

THE alarming increase in dengue cases should come as a wake-up call for the country's public health system. More than 94,000 cases and 91 deaths have been reported in the country till September 17. Kerala tops the chart with 9,770 cases and 37 fatalities. The situation prompted Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya to assess the preparedness and ask states to intensify the prevention, containment and management measures according to the prescribed guidelines. What should worry the authorities is that despite vector-borne diseases being a recurring seasonal threat, our public health systems are never fully prepared to tackle them.

Take the case of Kerala. The state has been reporting a high number of dengue cases year after year. While the numbers are unusually high this year, the state reported a substantial 4,432 cases and 29 deaths in 2022, and 3,251 cases and 27 deaths the year before. Yet, the measures to deal with the disease are found to be seriously lacking in intent and efficacy. The biggest concern for Kerala is the rise in mortality. We are told that the key factors aiding mosquito breeding are the uneven rain attributed to climate change, unplanned urbanisation, and the general lack of cleanliness in our cities, towns and villages. Source reduction activities can be boosted. The government and local bodies should take the lead in this. But the people should understand that the mosquitoes that bite them are bred in their vicinities and they must take the responsibility of keeping their premises mosquito-free. According to epidemiologists, though dengue is tough to eradicate, it can certainly be controlled if measures are taken in time every year.

As a state that constantly battles communicable diseases, Kerala certainly needs a trained workforce to deal with such threats. Its plan to set up a Public Health Cadre, a dedicated workforce for the prevention and surveillance of communicable diseases, has been a non-starter. There is also a need for epidemiologists and public health experts to coordinate with the disaster management authority for geospatial mapping of mosquito-breeding spots so that prevention work can be targeted. According to a study by the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, with the warmer weather and intermittent rainfall promoting mosquito growth, there is a chance that a more virulent dengue virus would emerge. Our public health system must be strengthened and disease-control measures intensified to face such a threat.

BUMP IN TAX HAUL RAISES HOPE FOR GOVT TARGET

THE surprising growth of one-third in gross tax collection in August over July has helped the government put its fiscal house in order. The buoyancy has helped play catch-up with budget targets. The first four months of the financial year—April to July 2023—presented a sorry figure; gross tax collections were up only 2.83 percent over the same quarter in the previous year, and corporate tax collections fell 10 percent. With the August bump, the gross tax collection in the first five months now shows a healthy year-on-year growth of 16.5 percent. This is still early in the financial year. With the economy predicted to slow down in the second half, the government will be hoping that the tax mop-up tapers off slowly.

The government has set itself a challenging target of limiting the fiscal deficit to 5.9 percent of the GDP this financial year, against the 6.4 percent clocked last year. This is despite the fact that the Centre has raised the capital expenditure target by over 37 percent. Though it has kept the revenue expenditure target—the money spent on salaries, pensions and other administrative works—at only ₹35 lakh crore, compared to ₹34.6 lakh crore last year, it is quite likely that the target would be breached. Then the government's only hope would be to have a robust revenue growth, tax and non-tax. The RBI has already paid ₹87,416 crore in dividend to the government. With disinvestment proceeds unlikely to meet the budget target of ₹51,000 crore, it is only with a healthy tax collection that the government can hope to fill any revenue gap.

The good thing is that the goods and services tax (GST) collection remains strong. But GST alone cannot help the government achieve its ambitious fiscal deficit target. Direct taxes and other indirect taxes like customs and excise duties need to play their parts. Unfortunately, the economic sky has been clouded with rising oil prices, an underwhelming monsoon, and a likely slowdown of the global economy in the second half. With elections coming up, it remains to be seen whether the Centre throws fiscal caution to the wind.

QUICK TAKE

SOCIAL AUDITS MUST FOR JOBS SCHEME

GOVERNMENT data released recently shows that the national jobs scheme's social audit mechanism is getting increasingly hobbled. The scheme calls for gram sabhas to monitor the works and independent social auditors in every state to keep an eye on how they are being run. Fewer social audits have been conducted in recent years. On top, less than a fifth of the misappropriation reported by social auditors have been recovered. Rights-based laws, where citizens need to claim the right, would not work without adequate information and audits. The biggest jobs scheme in the world is a critical support system for India. Let us make it as good as it needs to be.

Much has changed from Gandhi's vision for rural India. But do we know precisely how things have changed? Crafting policy is tough without accurate data

KNOW THE INDIA THAT STILL LIVES IN ITS VILLAGES

S CHANDRASEKHAR

Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai

SOUMYADIP SINHA

MAHATMA Gandhi said India lives in its villages. India's second prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, who shares his birthday with the Mahatma's on this day, highlighted the contribution of farmers and coined the slogan *'Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan'*. Decades earlier, Bhimrao Ambedkar wrote at length on the need to improve the livelihoods of small farmers.

The first Census conducted after the Mahatma's death, in 1951, put India's rural population at almost 300 million; today it is more than three times higher. A precise, up-to-date estimate of the number of rural households and rural population is tough because we could not conduct a Census during the pandemic. But we can get some insights from the Mission Antyodaya data collected by the rural development ministry. This data is useful for highlighting the broad changes that have occurred since 2011, when the Census was last conducted.

First, how rural is India? Based on the available projections, my guesstimate is that at least six in every ten Indians continue to live in rural areas. One thing we know for sure is that the number of inhabited villages has increased. Between 2011 and 2020, the number of large villages in India increased from 597,608 to 648,548. Three Indian states account for 30 percent of India's villages—Uttar Pradesh (16 percent), Rajasthan (7 percent), and Bihar (7 percent). The relatively urbanised states such as Karnataka, Maharashtra and West Bengal account for another 18 percent.

Second, the Mission Antyodaya data puts India's rural population at 1.03 billion. In 2011, India's rural population was 833 million. This suggests that the rural population increased by 197 million in the decade starting 2011. Contrast this with the period 2001 to 2011, when India's rural population increased by 90.4 million. It is tough to explain why the increase in the decade starting 2011 is more than twice that in the earlier decade.

The accuracy of the Mission Antyodaya data is not certain, but we do not have any other for our purpose. So, we have no option but to rely on it for looking at rural India at the moment. Those collecting the Mission data are likely to have cross-checked it with the Census of 2011.

The share of the rural population living in large villages has increased. In 2011, barely 9 percent of India's rural population lived in villages with a population of over 10,000. This has now increased to 16 percent. There are news reports documenting that new gram panchayats have been formed in line with the increase in village populations. It has also been reported that state governments are considering proposals for bifurcation of large villages.

One might ask why large villages do not get reclassified as urban areas. Article 243Q of the Constitution of India pertains to the setting up of municipalities. It recognises a Nagar Panchayat as 'an area in transition from a rural area to an urban area'. Large villages, typically, would qualify on two of the three criterions for being reclassified as urban. The two qualifications are a minimum population of 5,000 and a density of at least 400 persons per square kilometre. However, they would likely fail the criterion of needing to have 75 percent of the male working population engaged in non-agricultural work. A case in point is Bihar, a state that accounts for nearly 25 percent of all Indian villages with a population of over 10,000. This was true in 2011 too. We also know that Bihar is the least urbanised state.

Does the act of bifurcation of large villages, creation of new gram panchayats, and bifurcation of gram panchayats lead to better outcomes for the residents? We do not know. What is needed is a consolidated geo-referenced database that will help us understand whether the delivery of government services improved following the changes. The same goes for new municipal corporations that are carved out of urban India. Even here, due to the lack of relevant data, one does not know whether it actually led to improved governance.

Let us also not forget that the bulk of rural India lives in mid-sized villages—a third of them in villages with a population of 2,000-5,000, and another 16 percent in villages with a population of 5,000-10,000. We hardly know anything about the economic base of these villages. At best, from satellite imagery, we can get an idea of land use. But such data needs to be processed and put in the public domain.

So, is rural India all about agriculture? No. According to the Annual Survey of Industries, factories located in rural India account for nearly half the total manufacturing output. But these factories employ a minuscule proportion of India's rural workforce. The reality is that nearly 60 percent of rural male workers are self-employed in farm and non-farm activity and 27 percent as casual labourers. These estimates are from the Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey. And the problem of small land-holding identified by Ambedkar continues to be pesky.

Various policies have been formulated to support rural livelihoods. Way back in the third five-year plan, we find mention of a rural employment scheme for 100 days. The idea of forming self-help groups to promote financial inclusion goes back to the year 1992-93. Based on the idea of facilitating access to appropriate technology, in 2004, the pan-India Rural Technology Action Group was conceived. In recent times, the idea of farmer-producer organisations that would aggregate the output of small farmers to get better prices has been implemented. Fast forward to 2023, when the Vishwakarma Yojana, aimed at helping skilled craftsmen get acquainted with digital marketplaces, has been announced.

These initiatives are piecemeal, and most often they treat the symptom rather than the cause. In contrast, Ambedkar and Gandhi attempted to work out a holistic plan for rural India. One lesson from that era is the need for an intellectual debate over development strategies cutting across ideologies. This is missing in public discourse these days. In the lead up to the 2024 elections, it is important that we have a discussion on our vision for rural India. The onus is on political parties to propose well-rounded plans for the places where most of India still lives.

(Views are personal.)

TRADITION TEACHES US THAT TO BEE IS THE ANSWER

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

IT is still so hot and humid in the Plains that the approaching cold weather seems very far away. But the change of season is unstoppable and so are its attendant illnesses. One of the oldest curative substances known to mankind is honey. Indian honey comes in several delicious flavours such as multiflora, jamun and eucalyptus.

In the old days in Delhi, if you were lucky enough to have a beehive in your neighbourhood, the honey-man would come by seasonally and take out the honey. After filling as many jars as you wanted, he would sell the rest in the neighbourhood—genuine, unadulterated honey made from the garden flowers, to spread on hot buttered toast or drink with hot water and lemon juice if you had a cold or a sore throat. Nowadays the craze for harmful white sugar seems to be waning, and there is a revival of interest in healthy honey.

I recently read about a chapter in the *Quran* which celebrates the honeybee. It is called 'An Nahl' or The Bee. It talks about a number of topics, taking a strong line against 'infidels' and stating that Friday should be observed instead of the Sabbath. But it is specifically named The Bee to draw attention to the example upheld of the bee's hard work and community service. The bee is considered one of Allah's miracles in the *Quran* because it produces honey which is a panacea for humankind's afflictions.

An Nahl has one hundred twenty-eight verses. The verses that mention bees are sixty-eight and sixty-nine. The *Quran* says in Verse sixty-eight:

'And your Lord commanded the bee, saying: Build your home in the mountains, and on the trees and the trellises that they erect.'

And Verse sixty-nine says:

'Then, feed on all the fruits

And follow humbly the processes taught by your Lord.

There issues from its belly a juice of diverse hues, in which there is a cure for the people. There is indeed a sign in that for a people who reflect.'

Verbs in Arabic are apparently male or female. The verbs used to command the bee and describe its untiring hard work are reportedly female, and the imperative 'build' in the *Quranic* verse above is apparently the translation of the Arabic word *attakhithi*, which is feminine. The Arabs in the seventh century could not have known that worker bees are female. So, this usage seems highly intuitive and amazing. It also reminds us of the *Bhagavad Gita*, where Chapter sixteen is on 'divine and demoniac natures'. I read that a number of the good qualities it lists for a person to have are 'feminine' grammatically.

Honeybees belong to the genus *Apis*. It seems they communicate with each other using a dance language, which has been studied by Europeans and discovered to be highly complex and coded. It further seems that a third of all the food we eat is a result of pollination by the honeybee.

It is worth knowing that a third of all the food we eat comes from pollination by bees. They are hardworking creatures, travelling to faraway places to find sources of nectar and then flying back to tell their fellow bees what they found. Science tells us they communicate through dance language

But habitat loss is decimating its numbers. Apparently, a bee lives only forty days and produces less than a teaspoon of honey as its life output. This may seem so little in terms of human consumption—but what a prodigious effort for one short little life.

The honeybee's best practices for living are truly worth emulating by humankind. I read online that bees can traverse long distances to find nectar. They then swarm back to the hive and let the other bees in on what they've discovered. Come summer, they keep their home cool by sprinkling water and fanning fresh air. When winter comes, they cluster together for warmth. They also make bee bread for the little ones, and keep their hive clean. Bees are very smart; when their hive starts to get too crowded, they know some need to leave and create new colonies.

Meanwhile, what do old Indian stories have to say about the honeybee? The bee figures a lot in Indian religious imagery, literature and compositions in Hindustani music, especially about the advent of spring. Modern Indian names for boys like Makarand mean 'nectar', and Milind means 'honeybee'. Milind is said to be a name for Sri Krishna and denotes a successful achiever. However, what is probably the best-known bee story is actually a tree story. It is from the good old *Panchatantra*.

The story goes that a mango tree and a pipal tree grew side by side in the forest. One day, a swarm of bees came looking for a new home. Noting the fine, tall pipal tree and its cool shade, the queen bee asked the pipal if they could make their hive on it. But the pipal was proud of its grandeur and said inhospitably, "I don't want any intruders on my person."

Hearing this rude refusal, the mango tree spoke up. "You are welcome to make your home in my branches," it told the queen bee. And so, the bees made a fine home for themselves on the mango tree.

One day, a couple of carpenters came along, looking for wood. They dismissed the mango tree because it harboured a hive, fearing being stung if they disturbed the bees. Instead, they exclaimed in wonder at the fine pipal tree and set about cutting it.

The pipal cried out in agony, and the mango tree responded at once. It requested the bees to save the pipal. The bees stung the carpenters, who ran away screaming. And so, the pipal was saved—a lesson on Nature's complicity, and that being nice beats being nasty.

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Independent axis

Ref: *Build an Asia axis that doesn't seek attention and approval of the West* (Oct 1). All said and done, the ongoing Indo-Canadian diplomatic fracas has made the rest of the world sit up and take notice of the 'new world order', where it isn't the economically powerful West and some Asian nations that control the world according to their whims and fancies. Emerging superpowers captained by India are no longer the formers' doormats but will call the shots from now on.
Dr George Jacob, Kochi

Mobile power

Anuradha Goyal's *There is a parrot in my pocket* (Oct 1) is very relevant and thought-provoking. Technology is enslaving us. Ask any youngster how she will spend a day without the phone. The answer is, "Unthinkable."
Dr J Bhagyalakshmi, email

Age limit

Ref: *Will be back to review work next year: Modi* (Oct 1). Modi is pretty confident of winning a third term after seeing the wavering nature of opposition parties. In 2025, Modi will turn 75, and BJP usually drops politicians when they reach this age. The question is whether he will go, or stay on just like Xi Jinping in China and Vladimir Putin in Russia, who can rule as long as they want to.
Parthasarathy Mandadi, Tirupati

Community reputation

Ref: *Indian High Commissioner to UK heckled by K-gang* (Oct 1). If such incidents continue, the Sikh community, especially in Canada and Britain, may be identified as terrorists, and this will spoil their reputation. Sikh organisations should condemn such incidents and isolate bad elements from the community.
P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

Protect Indians

That Khalistani activists prevented the Indian High Commissioner from entering the Gurudwara is despicable and needs to be condemned strongly as it is a hostile act against India. The local police did not respond adequately. Countries where Khalistani forces are active should provide adequate protection to Indian citizens and diplomats.
K R Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

Clean idea

Ref: *Rlys to pull off '14-minute miracle' in cleaning* (Oct 1). Cleaning the coaches and readying them for the return journey has always been a daunting task for the sanitation staff. The new cleaning idea would be a miracle if implemented. If it materialises, the train will carve a niche for itself in railway sanitation and hygiene standards.
Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Jyotiraditya M Scindia @JM_Scindia
How can common man trust the Congress party, which did not take even a single step for guest teachers in 90 days, did not waive the loan of even a single farmer in Madhya Pradesh?

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
The new disability pension rules for the armed forces are a surgical strike by the Modi government on the honor of our country's army and soldiers.

Yogendra Yadav @_YogendraYadav
If the country has to be saved it is important to have a change of power in 2024. For this, 'Jeetega India Campaign' will begin from Sevagram of Wardha on October 2.

BJP vets candidates, final list in a day or two

Party may drop some sitting MLAs in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and MP again and field some Union ministers and MPs

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID speculation that the BJP may release the names of party candidates for assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh on Monday, the party's apex decision-making body — the Central Election Committee (CEC) — brainstormed over the final selection of candidates on Sunday.

The CEC, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in attendance at the party headquarters, went through the details of candidates, including their profiles and winnability factors.

According to sources, the CEC, which comprises Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda among others, discussed the names of probable candidates and held wider deliberations on the electoral strategy for the three states.

The crucial meeting of CEC lasted more than 45 minutes, during which Modi also dwelt upon the strategy to be adopted for winning elections in the three states, sources said.

The PM emphasised on the need for fielding candidates who have deep people connect.

The list of candidates for the remaining seats of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh were also placed before the PM for approval. "The list for Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh have been finalised for the upcoming assembly elections after wider deliberations on the contestants. The party may also release the first list of candidates for Telangana. It might have been discussed by the CEC," said a BJP leader.

It is learnt that the party may drop some sitting MLAs in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh again and field some Union ministers and MPs with deep electoral experiences in their respective states.

The focus of the meeting was primarily on the preparedness of Rajasthan polls since senior party leaders from the state, including former chief minister Vasundhara Raje, attended it.

The BJP has so far named 79 candidates for the polls to the 230-member Madhya Pradesh assembly and 21 for elections to the 90-member House in Chhattisgarh.

Prior to the CEC meeting, top BJP leaders also had a meeting at party chief Nadda's residence to discuss preparations for the assembly polls.

At the meeting, according to sources, the BJP's core group leaders shared their strategies and opinions on the names of probable candidates.

This meeting was also attended by Union minister Pralhad Joshi, who is also BJP's election in-charge for Rajasthan; co-in-charge Kuldeep Bishnoi; former Rajasthan chief minister Vasundhara Raje and party state unit chief C P Joshi.

Union ministers Arjun Ram Meghwal and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and BJP national general secretary and in-charge for Rajasthan Arun Singh were also present at the meeting.

Union minister and party's Chhattisgarh election in-charge Mansukh Mandaviya, state unit president Arun Sao, state organisation secretary Nitin Naveen and leader of opposition in state assembly Narayan Chandel also attended the meeting at Nadda's residence. The list for Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh seats on which candidates have not been announced so far, are likely to be out tomorrow or Tuesday.

PM Narendra Modi and BJP national president JP Nadda chair the Central Election Committee meeting on Sunday. Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union minister Pralhad Joshi and senior leader BS Yediyurappa were also present | PTI

> **The list of candidates for Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh for the upcoming assembly polls have been finalised. BJP is also likely to release the first list of candidates for Telangana**
>
> BJP leader

POWER GAMES

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New TRAI Chief

EX-DEF SECY MAY BEAT PVT SECTOR HONCHOS

The 1985-batch Kerala Cadre IAS officer, Ajay Kumar, who retired from the government service as defence secretary, is leading the race for the job of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) chief. The Selection Committee, appointed to find a new TRAI chairman, met on September 11 but did not come to a conclusion. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for October 4 when the name of the new chairman is likely to be finalised. There were reports that the Union government may amend the TRAI Act, 1997 to throw open the post of telecom regulator chairman for private sector executives. However, sources said Ajay Kumar has emerged as the top choice of the people sitting at the highest level of the government. The post of TRAI chief has fallen vacant as P D Vaghela, a Gujarat cadre IAS officer who was heading the organisation, superannuated on September 30. Vaghela was considered close to the regime and was expected to be given an extension. But the leaders at the Raisina Hills seem to have other plans. Twenty-four serving and retired government officers have applied for the post and the winner will be announced this week.

Manipur Crisis

25 MEITEI MLAs IN DELHI TO PRESS FOR SOLUTION

The MLAs belonging to the dominant Meitei community of Manipur have arrived in Delhi to put pressure on the Union government to take immediate steps to end the ethnic violence in the state. The violence that erupted between Meiteis and the Kuki tribals has now gone on for months and has left in its trail more than two hundred people dead on both sides. Videos of violent crimes against women and children have shaken Manipuris from both sides of the divide. Meitei youth have now started putting pressure on their MLAs to bring peace to the state. Elected representatives are being gheraoed by student and youth organisations that have come together under the banner of 'Youth of Manipur' and are demanding an immediate return of peace in the state. Last week, a demonstration was also staged in front of Chief Minister N Biren Singh's house. The people of Manipur have realised that there are no winners in this fight. The youth of the state, especially those belonging to the Meitei community, have, therefore, decided to lead the campaign to end the cycle of violence. With anger growing against the lack of a solution to the continuing violence, Meitei MLAs belonging to both the ruling and opposition parties have arrived in the Capital to plead with the Union government to take steps to stop the violence.

AICC Office-bearers

KHARGE FACES PRIYANKA CHALLENGE

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is ready with the list of new office bearers of the AICC, including the general secretaries, secretaries and the heads of various departments and cells. However, the announcement has been delayed as the party is not able to find a suitable post for Priyanka Gandhi. Leaders close to her are keen to get her to continue as a general secretary. They are lobbying hard with the Congress president. But sources said Rahul and Sonia Gandhi do not want any member of the family to hold a party post. Rahul Gandhi had earlier rejected demands from across the states to take up the post of Congress president. All three Gandhis are part of the Congress Working Committee. The new team was expected to be announced after the end of the inauspicious period of Shraadh on October 14. But with the party announcing Ajay Maken as the new treasurer on Sunday, the remaining list may not be held back for long.

Most people say public toilets under Swachh mission in bad state: Survey

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

MOST Indians believe the condition of public toilets is worse and impaired, and it makes them continue to defecate in the open, shows a survey by social media platform LocalCircles.

India marks nine years of the Swachh Bharat Mission on Gandhi Jayanti. The Central government pledged to make the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2019, while launching the scheme in 2014. However, the poor management of public toilets defeated the sole objective of the mission, according to the survey.

The survey shows that around 58 per cent of Indians believe that public toilets constructed under the mission in markets, at religious sites, tourist hubs, railway stations, bus terminals and hospitals are in bad condition. Over one-fourth of Indians "went in but came out without using public toilets," said the survey, adding, "Only 18 per cent of Indians use free public toilets."

Among those who use public toilets, only 10 per cent find them usable. Most urban Indians prefer to use toilets located in commercial complexes.

LocalCircles conducted the survey in 340 districts across the country, which included Tier-1, 2, and 3 cities and towns with over 39,000 respondents.

Recently, the Delhi High Court had rapped the Central and Delhi governments, besides civic authorities, on the poor condition of public toilets. The court had said that cleanliness of public toilets is fundamental, along with the availability of clean water and power.

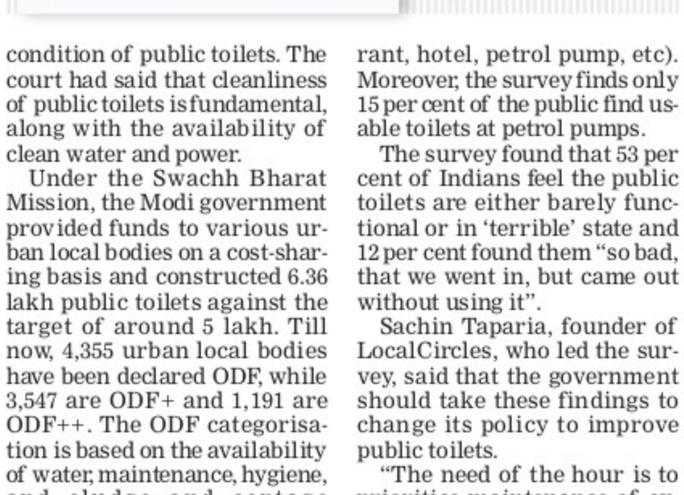
Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, the Modi government provided funds to various urban local bodies on a cost-sharing basis and constructed 6.36 lakh public toilets against the target of around 5 lakh. Till now, 4,355 urban local bodies have been declared ODF, while 3,547 are ODF+ and 1,191 are ODF++. The ODF categorisation is based on the availability of water, maintenance, hygiene, and sludge and septage management.

The survey reveals that hardly 3 per cent find free public toilets usable, whereas the majority (68 per cent) of urban Indians prefer visiting a commercial establishment (restaurant, hotel, petrol pump, etc). Moreover, the survey finds only 15 per cent of the public find usable toilets at petrol pumps.

The survey found that 53 per cent of Indians feel the public toilets are either barely functional or in 'terrible' state and 12 per cent found them "so bad, that we went in, but came out without using it".

Sachin Taparia, founder of LocalCircles, who led the survey, said that the government should take these findings to change its policy to improve public toilets.

"The need of the hour is to prioritise maintenance of existing public toilets over building newer public toilets," said Taparia. He said these findings should serve as an eye-opener for the Swachh Bharat Mission as well as urban local bodies, who maintain public toilets.


Half of lavatories barely functional
SURVEY
A study was conducted in India's 340 districts with over 39,000 respondents
58%
say the public toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission are either barely functional or in 'terrible' state
15% FOUND TOILETS AT PETROL PUMPS USABLE
ODF FIGURES
4,355 urban local bodies declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). While 3,547 are ODF+ and 1,191 are ODF++. The category is based on availability of water, maintenance
25%
found public toilets so bad, that they went in but came out without using them

Depression over Konkan region weakens, may cause less intense rains

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Indian Meteorological Department on Sunday said cyclonic disturbance-induced depression over the Konkan region—western coasts of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka—has weakened and would cause less intense rainfall over the central Maharashtra.

However, a low pressure prevailing over the Gangetic Bay of Bengal region (east India) would cause heavy rainfall in the adjoining region.

According to meteorologists, the deep depression over the Konkan region was formed on September 30 (Saturday) and the wind speed was assessed between 40-60 kmph. Wind speed of over 60 kmph falls under the cyclone category.

It will cause rainfall in central Maharashtra and other adjoining regions in the coming days. Also, the well-marked low-pressure area over western parts of Gangetic Bengal and adjoining Jharkhand will cause heavy rainfall.

"Depression over south Konkan weakened into a low-pressure area over south Madhya Maharashtra (south-central Maharashtra) and neighbouring areas, which will reduce the intensity of the rainfall," said Dr Monica Sharma, a scientist at the IMD tracking the depression.

She further said that the rainfall may further reduce the deficit of southwest monsoon rainfall.

The IMD, in its southwest monsoon (June-September 2023) assessment, stated that the season ended with 5.6 per cent deficit, which is below normal. The southwest monsoon season received 94.4 per cent rainfall of the long period average.

Across the country, 73 per cent of subdivisions recorded normal rainfall whereas 18 per cent experienced deficient rainfall. "The current cyclonic disturbances will further reduce the deficit as these disturbances were developed in September," Dr Sharma added.

Withdrawal of southwest monsoon is under progress from the remaining parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and western Uttar Pradesh and parts of western Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat during the next two to three days.

The IMD has also forecasted a deficit northeast monsoon in October and hotter days and nights in October.

The above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures of both days and nights are likely to be reported over most parts of the country, the Met department added.

With Muizzu as Maldives Prez, India to wait & watch

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi was among the first leaders to congratulate Maldives' newly elected President Mohammed Muizzu on Sunday. But considering the inclination of the former leader of opposition towards China, speculation is rife that all the diplomatic and political clout that India exercised in Maldives will now be a thing of the past.

"There is no doubt that Muizzu has leanings towards China, but we doubt if he would be able to, or rather be interested in, completely sidelining his association with India. That said, China and its presence in Maldives will be in the ascendant," said a political analyst from Male, wishing anonymity.

Muizzu won the Maldivian presidential poll defeating incumbent Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, securing 54 per cent votes against the latter's 46 per cent.

Solih, who belongs to Maldivian Democratic Party, had replaced former President Abdulla Yameen (2013-18). Solih was considered India-friendly during his five-year tenure and was a close aide of India.

On the contrary, when Muizzu's Progressive Party of Maldives was last in power, it had secured heavy Chinese loans for the island nation. His government was also accused of cracking down on dissent.

While the five years of Solih's presidency were peaceful and prosperous, the same optimism cannot be expressed for Muizzu, due to his affinity with Yameen.

Yameen, who is currently serving an 11-year jail sentence on charges corruption, was not just pro-China, but also vehemently anti-India. The 'India out' campaigns kept surfacing on his instigation even when he was in jail.

Yameen was Muizzu's mentor and with Muizzu now in power, Yameen's release is understandably imminent.

India has invested heavily in Maldives. It has been involved in developing their infrastructure projects and, under its Neighbourhood First policy, extended grants in aid and loans.

Nevertheless, there have been targeted hate attacks at repeated intervals — whether it was on migrant workers from India or on last year's Yoga Day celebrations.

India established diplomatic relations with Maldives after its independence from British rule in 1996. In fact, India was one of the first countries to recognise Maldives after independence and develop close strategic and military ties.

"We hope that things remain normal between India and Maldives. Though we must admit that once Yameen is out, there is bound to be a hardening of stance against India," said a source, adding that many who voted for Muizzu were keen to see India's military presence reduce in the country.

Uncertain ties

Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, who was replaced by Mohamed Muizzi, was considered India-friendly during his five-year tenure. On the contrary, when Muizzu's party was last in power, it had secured heavy Chinese loans for Maldives. While the five years of Solih's presidency were peaceful, the same optimism cannot be expressed for Muizzu, due to his affinity with Yameen. Yameen was vehemently anti-India.

Centre frames regulations to ensure safety of residents in care homes

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

MORE than 4,500 care homes, including old age homes, hospice (supportive) care and living facilities for differently abled, exist in the country. As the market continues to grow without any checks, the Centre has framed regulations to check the safety of patients.

The regulations have been framed for the first time for both the public and private care homes, and focus on the quality and safety of residents in care, said Dr Atul Mohan Kochhar, CEO of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH), which has been set up to establish and operate accreditation programme for healthcare organisations.

It will also cover specialised care, assisted living, transition living, palliative care and technical care facilities.

> **NABH standards for care homes will be instrumental in regulating the market in India**
>
> Dr Atul Mohan Kochhar, CEO of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers

Noting that the mushrooming of care homes in India has "always been a concern," Dr Kochhar said, "This market is unregulated, and it is the need of the hour to give it attention so that the quality of life and safety of residents are not compromised."

"NABH standards for care homes will be instrumental in regulating the market in India," he told this newspaper.

The NABH Accreditation Standards for Care Homes, which are voluntary, lay thrust on setting up a mechanism to report a violation of resident's rights, feedback and ensuring the protection of residents against all forms of abuse.

The regulations also mention in detail the key features of such facilities, including easy-to-grip door knobs, toilets with grab bars, staircase designed and provided as per disability standards.

It also lists access to mental health support and rehabilitation services for the residents.

As many of these care homes house the elderly and those battling serious illnesses, the regulations also mention that these organisations should have a "clearly defined procedure for handling situations of death."

It also stresses resident engagement and wellness. It lists regular programmes for activities and events, like games and cultural programmes, physical exercise, and the availability of newspapers, TV and radio in common areas.

SYRUPS SEIZED

Three people were arrested after a factory where spurious cough syrups were made was busted in Meghalaya on Sunday. The spurious cough syrups made with phensedyl is addictive and were smuggled to Bangladesh.

03 KIDS KILLED IN LIGHTNING STRIKE IN J'KHAND

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	27	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

PM to unveil ₹19K-cr projects in MP

Modi's rally to focus on Gwalior-Chambal region with 34 'difficult' seats in poll-bound state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

The sprawling Mela Ground in Gwalior city is set to host the third mega political rally within three months on Monday as Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a public meeting after unveiling and laying the foundation of MP-specific projects.

He will grace a similar programme in Jabalpur on October 5. The PM's Monday visit is his eighth in six months to the poll-bound state where the BJP hasn't declared a CM face. It is set to fight the polls with the PM's face at the Centre.

The PM will be on a trip to the Rajasthan's Chittorgarh district and Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district. In Gwalior, he will dedicate and lay the foundation of multiple development initiatives worth around Rs 19,260 crores.

He will also unveil the Gwalior-Sumaoli (Morena) railway section as well as flag off the Gwalior-Sumaoli MEMU special train. In an initiative aimed at boosting connectivity across the country, the PM will dedicate to the nation the Delhi-Vadodara Expressway, which has been developed at a cost of about Rs 11,895 crores. He will also lay the foundation of five different road projects worth over Rs 1,880 crore.

To launch Delhi-Vadodara Expressway

In an initiative aimed at boosting connectivity across the country, the PM will dedicate to the nation the Delhi-Vadodara Expressway, which has been developed at a cost of about ₹11,895 crore.

BONANZA FOR MP

- PM to dedicate to the nation Delhi-Vadodara Expressway, developed at a cost of about ₹11,895 cr
- Lay foundation of 5 road projects of ₹1,880 cr
- Dedicate ₹140 crore worth houses built under PMAY-Urban Scheme
- Lay the foundation of Jal Jeevan Mission projects worth over ₹1,530 crore
- Lay foundation of 9 health centres that will come up at a cost of ₹150 crore

The Grih Pravesh of over 2.2 lakh houses built under PMAY–Gramin Scheme will be initiated by the PM who will also dedicate Rs 140 crore worth houses built under PMAY-Urban Scheme.

Further, the PM will lay the foundation of Jal Jeevan Mission projects worth over Rs 1,530 crore meant for Gwalior and Sheopur districts. These projects will together benefit over 720 villages of the Gwalior-Chambal region. Also, in a step to boost the health infrastructure, Modi will lay the foundation of nine health centres under Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, to come up at a cost of ₹150 crore.

Among the other MP-specific projects, the PM will dedicate the academic building of IIT Indore and lay the foundation stone for the hostel and other buildings in the campus. The foundation of Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Indore will also be laid from Gwalior.

The PM will also dedicate various projects including Integrated Industrial Township in Ujjain, IOCL bottling plant, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Divyang Sports Training Centre at Gwalior. The PM's presence in Gwalior (the nucleus of the 34-assembly seats strong Gwalior-Chambal region of MP) on Monday, particularly assumes significance, as the region was BJP's Achilles Heel in 2018 assembly polls, when the BJP had managed to win just seven seats against the Congress's 26 seats in the region, bordering both Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Despite the Gwalior-Chambal region being the home turf of two Union ministers – Narendra Singh Tomar, Jyotiraditya Scindia – and state BJP chief VD Sharma and home minister Narottam Mishra, party's internal surveys are not painting a rosy picture.

Abhishek ups ante on Delhi protest, gets PMAY recipients to protest site

PRONAB MONDAL @Kolkata

PRESSING Centre to release "pending" dues of central schemes to Bengal, All India Trinamool Congress (TMC) national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Sunday left from Kolkata for New Delhi along with fathers of three children aged between three and five years, who were killed when part of the wall of their mud-house collapsed in Bankura on Saturday, to participate in a protest on October 2-3.

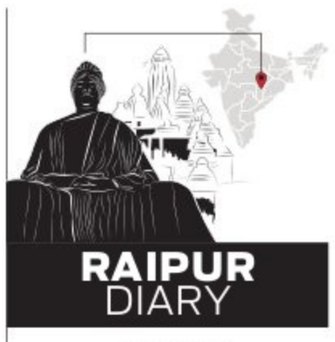
The two-day protest in the national capital is aimed at pressing for the Centre's release of funds due to Bengal which include wages under the Centre-funded Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme and grants for constructing houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

Claiming that the families of the three children were enlisted in the list of beneficiaries for a concrete house under the Centre-funded PMAY, Abhishek alleged they were forced to live in the mudhouse as they were yet to receive the money to construct houses.

"As the Centre has stopped the release of funds under the scheme, their houses could not be constructed. The three children died after being trapped under the mud wall of their house which collapsed during rain. Who is responsible for their death? Union minister for Rural Development Giriraj Singh must answer it," Abhishek alleged while speaking to mediapersons at Kolkata airport.

The children—Rohan Sardar(5), Ankush Sardar (3)and Nisha Sardar(4)—were killed when they were playing in the courtyard of their house. After permission for a special train to transport TMC workers to Delhi was denied by the railway authorities, over 2,000 job-card holders under the Centre's rural employment guarantee scheme left Kolkata on Saturday to participate in the protest.

However, one of the buses met an accident at Kodarma in Jharkhand after the driver "lost control" and hit a heap of soil dumped beside the thoroughfare for the repairing of the road. Eight party supporters received minor injuries.



RAIPUR DIARY

EJAZ KAISER
Our correspondent in Chhattisgarh
ejaz@newindianexpress.com

HC unhappy over festive season noise pollution

The Chhattisgarh high court took suo motu cognisance of media reports regarding the use of high-decibel music amplifiers and DJ during the ongoing festive season. Expressing deep concern over the harassment faced by people, a division bench observed that the directives of the Supreme Court to prevent and regulate noise pollution appeared to have been totally ignored with the state agencies failing in their duty to stick to rules. The court emphasised that any negligence would amount to contempt, directing the chief secretary to submit an affidavit summarising the measures taken by the state.

Congress' Bharose Ki Yatra on Gandhi Jayanti

The ruling Congress in poll-bound Chhattisgarh will organise 'Bharose Ki Yatra' (journey of trust) in all 90 constituencies of the state on October 2. The day-long event, which is seen as a continuation of the public meetings 'Bharose Ka Sammelan', was organised in recent weeks by the Bhupesh Baghel government in some districts. 'Bharose Ki Yatra' will be the first political yatra of the Congress to be taken out for a day ahead of the Assembly polls. Besides the CM, all ministers, MLAs, party leaders and cadres will attend it in their respective constituencies.

Work on new Assembly building expedited

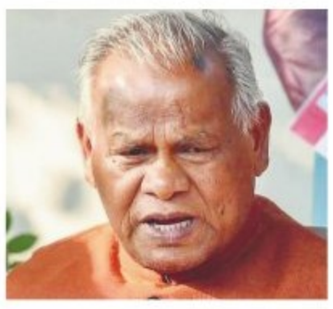
After the inauguration of the new Parliament building, the ongoing construction of the new Chhattisgarh Assembly House has sparked some interest. The pace of work on the building has been expedited. The foundation-laying ceremony of the Assembly building at new capital city 'Nava Raipur' was held on August 29, 2020, in the virtual presence of Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. The mega building structure, constructed in 51 acres with the cost of ₹275 crore, is expected to be completed within the eighteen months. It will have the capacity of 200 legislators. Chhattisgarh currently has a 90-member House.

HAM's Manjhi 'retires,' paves way for his son's elevation in Bihar NDA

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

HINDUSTANI Awam Morcha (HAM) patron and former Bihar chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi on Sunday asserted that he would not contest the 2024 Lok Sabha election citing his age of 79 years.

While speaking to mediapersons, Manjhi opined that no person should contest elections after 75 years of age although it was another matter some people even after attaining this age did not hesitate to enter the electoral fray."I am 79 years old, and contesting elections in such a situation will be against my principles," he remarked while announcing his retirement from electoral politics after spending over 42 years.



Manjhi who returned to National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in June this year, had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi last week but told the media that the meeting was not in connection with the polls. It is being speculated that Manjhi was seeking a ticket for his son Santosh Kumar Suman, who is also the president of the HAM, in general elections.Suman was the minister in the grand alliance government in Bihar but resigned from his post, making allegations that Nitish Kumar exerting pressure on him to merge his party with JD (U). Later, he announced joining the NDA.

When asked can Nitish return to the NDA, Manjhi his party was a small constituent of the NDA and had no big say in welcoming or opposing somebody joining the alliance. However, he said the HAM would oppose if PM Narendra Modi or Shah wanted to bring Nitish back to the NDA.

Over RJD MP Manoj Jha "controversial" remarks on Thakur community, Manjhi took a different stand from the NDA and said that he didn't comment on a particular caste.

MANIPUR VIOLENCE

Farmers to be compensated, says Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Guwahati

THE Centre has come up with a ₹38.06 crore crop compensation package for the ethnic violence-affected farmers in Manipur. The package will cover 5,127.08 hectares of severely-affected agricultural areas identified as "areas likely to remain uncultivated due to present (ethnic violence) situation."

The state's agriculture commissioner, R K Dinesh revealed the estimated loss for the 5,127.08 hectares is calculated as ₹38.06 crore using average crop yield for the affected districts for the last three years and areas where cultivation may not be possible.

Earlier, a survey, conducted by farmers' body "Loumee Shinmee Apunba Lup (LOUSAL), stated that around 9,719 hectares of paddy fields in the Imphal valley might face crop failure as farmers are afraid of going to their fields due to sporadic firing by the miscreants from the foothills.

It is estimated that the total loss of income for the state in the agricultural sector this year could be around ₹226.50 crore. Of this, the highest loss will be in rice production of up to ₹211.41 crore.

Back-channel talks for 6 months led to Mirwaiz release after 4 yrs

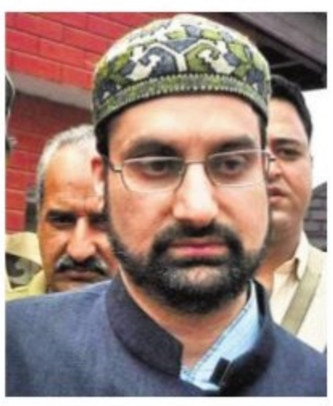
FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

THE release of Hurriyat Conference leader and cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq from over four years of house detention was under active consideration of the government for the last six months and finally the senior separatist leader was released from detention on September 22.

Sources said with the improvement in ground situation including near zero street protests and drop in militancy violence in Valley, the authorities had been actively considering for the last six months releasing Farooq from house detention.

"The process of his release was going on for the last six months and after taking feedback from all the concerned security agencies, Mirwaiz was released on Friday last week," they said. Mirwaiz was placed under house detention at his Nageen residence in Srinagar on August 4, 2019, a day before abrogation of J&K's special status and bifurcation of erstwhile J&K state into two Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir (with legislature) and Ladakh (without legislature).

Sources said a lot of back channel talks were held between the concerned quarters and Mirwaiz and the "successful and meaningful conclusion" of these talks led to his release.



'House detention'

Mirwaiz was placed under house detention at his Nageen residence in Srinagar on August 4, 2019, a day before abrogation of J&K's special status and bifurcation of erstwhile J&K state into two Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir (with legislature) and Ladakh (without legislature). He was among the 18 separatist leaders, whose security cover was withdrawn after February 14, 2019 militant attack on CRPF convoy at Lethpora, Pulwama.

They said lots of people were involved in these back-channel talks. During these back-channel talks, Mirwaiz would have been clearly told that there was no room or space for separatist politics anymore in Jammu and Kashmir and he should use his public reach and influence as a religious and political figure for positivity to bring positive changes in the lives of people here, they said.

They said during the house detention of four years, there might have been some change in thought of Mirwaiz and his mind would have been diverted to positive things as he "must have also realised that the situation has changed on the ground."

"If his release can make people bind and good senses prevail, then it is good. If his release can bring positivity on the ground, then it is good. During the back channel talks all things would have been made clear to him," sources said.

They said authorities would be keeping close watch on the movement and activities of Mirwaiz. A senior BJP leader said there is no scope for separatist politics in J&K anymore and if Mirwaiz continued with the separatist politics, then he could be detained again. "The separatist politics is unacceptable and won't be allowed," he said.

300 teachers find call of duty in remote areas

NARENDRA SETHI @Dehradun

IN a state where most teachers want transfers to schools in "easy" areas, there are over 300 teachers who have insisted on serving in difficult and inaccessible areas of Uttarakhand for more than two decades.

According to sources in the education department, 501 lecturers and 1,253 assistant teachers have been shifted from remote areas to accessible areas in the current academic year. As many as 431 lecturers and 467 assistant teachers were compulsorily transferred from "easy" to inaccessible areas.

Apart from this, 421 LT teachers (licentiate teacher grade) in the Garhwal division and 257 teachers in the Kumaon division were transferred on their request, while 327 lecturers were transferred in both divisions.

Ghanshyam Dhoundiyal, headmaster of Syuni Malli, a primary school in Chamoli district, said he has been volunteering to serve in a remote school for 23 years. He said he got the opportunity to be promoted to the post of Assistant Teacher LT twice, but he gave up the promotion. "My real promotion was the increased trust of the local people in me," he said.

Headmaster Ghanshyam Dhoundiyal of Syuni Malli primary school with his wards | EXPRESS

"Headmaster Dhoundiyal is extremely attached to this school which he believes can change the future of his students. He is an example for those who shy away from a posting in inaccessible areas," said a student.

Satish Ghildiyal, an assistant teacher of Junior High School Akhandwali Bhilang in Dehradun's Raipur block, has been posted in a remote school since his appointment in the department in 1996. "I was the first appointee at the remote primary school Syalkhal block Nainidanda in Pauri district, where I have been serving in my post since 2005. I want every child in the hills to get a quality education so that one doesn't have to go to big cities," said Ghildiyal.

Sanjay Chauhan works in various districts as an education motivator in Garhwal. "In hilly areas, teachers who are deeply concerned about their students are giving up their comforts and prefer to serve in difficult circumstances," said Chauhan.

Uttarakhand Director General of Education Banshidhar Tiwari told this newspaper that there are over 300 such teachers in the department, who have requested to stay on in their schools in remote areas.

Departmental sources said despite teachers being transferred as per rules, many of them continue to make rounds of the department bringing along with them recommendations from area MLAs or ministers.

'Compulsory transfer'

According to sources in the education department, 501 lecturers and 1,253 assistant teachers have been shifted from remote areas to accessible areas. As many as 431 lecturers and 467 assistant teachers were compulsorily transferred from "easy" to inaccessible areas. Apart from this, 421 LT teachers (licentiate teacher grade) in the Garhwal division and 257 teachers in the Kumaon division were transferred on their request, while 327 lecturers were transferred in both divisions.

Arunachal hosts northeast's first high-altitude marathon in Tawang

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Guwahatii

ARUNACHAL Pradesh on Sunday hosted the Northeast's first-ever high-altitude marathon (at 10,000 ft) in Tawang. Overall, 2,343 runners, including 511 females from 25 states took part in it. Given its success, Chief Minister Pema Khandu announced that the event would go global from next year.

He said despite challenges, the event could be organised successfully due to cooperation from all stakeholders.

"Tawang Marathon comes to an end but not the efforts and resolve, which made the event a grand success. From next year, the Marathon will go global. Cheering crowd and determined participants at Tsangyang Gyatson High Altitude stadium have left little scope for any doubt," Khandu posted on X, previously Twitter.

Local MP and Union minister Kiren Rijiju, who was also present, wrote, "Indian Army with Govt of Arunachal Pradesh under the guidance of CM @PemaKhanduBJP Ji made #TawangMarathon very exciting! I am delighted to see so many top runners from all over!"

Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju flag off Tawang Marathon on Sunday | EXPRESS

The inaugural edition, organised jointly by Indian Army and Arunachal government, was the first of its kind in the Northeast. It featured events such as marathon, half-marathon, 10 Km and 5 Km runs.

"Conducting a marathon in a high-altitude region, that too with a disadvantage of long travel time to the nearest airport and railway network, is indeed challenging," a defence ministry statement said.

Runners from Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and various paramilitary forces also participated.

Lt Gen Manish Erry, General Officer Commanding of 4 Corps, was confident that more runners, not only from India but beyond, would take part in the Tawang Marathon in future.

$21.86 BILLION
the size of the budget deficit Saudi Arabia is projected to have this year as per its finance ministry

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	28	13	SNY	Los Angeles	24	17	LC
Colombo	29	25	HR	Melbourne	27	11	HR
Dhaka	33	27	HR	Moscow	23	11	HR
Dubai	37	29	SNY	New York	18	16	HR
Houston	34	29	SNY	Paris	22	11	LC
Istanbul	26	18	HR	Singapore	31	26	SNY
London	19	9	LC	Toronto	20	16	LC

Suicide bombing near Turkish Parliament

Kurdistan Workers' Party claims responsibility for attack in Ankara; two police personnel injured in subsequent encounter

ANKARA

TURKISH President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Sunday that "terrorists" will never achieve their aims, hours after a blast near the parliament in the capital Ankara.

The powerful explosion outside the interior ministry, which was followed by large flames, was heard several kilometres from the site of the attack. The Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), listed as a terror group by Turkey and its Western allies that has been waging a deadly insurgency against Ankara for four decades, claimed responsibility.

The targeted district is home to several other ministries and the Turkish parliament, which reopened as planned in the afternoon with an address from Erdogan. The interior ministry said two attackers arrived in a commercial vehicle around 9:30 am (0630 GMT) in front of "the entrance gate of the General Directorate of Security of our Ministry of the Interior and carried out a bomb attack."

"The villains who threaten the peace and security of citizens have not achieved their objectives and will never achieve them," Erdogan said.

"One of the terrorists blew himself up. The other was killed by a bullet to the head before he had a chance to blow himself up," Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said in a statement. "Two of our police officers were lightly injured" in the exchange of fire, but their lives were not in danger, he added.

In a statement to the ANF news agency, which is close to the Kurdish movement, the PKK said that "a sacrificial action was carried out against the Turkish Interior Ministry".The Ankara police headquarters said on the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter, that it was carrying out "controlled explosions" of "suspicious packages" to prevent other explosions. The Ankara prosecutor's office said it was opening an investigation and banned access to the area.

Local media was asked to stop broadcasting images from the scene of the attack.

Security forces cordon off an area after an explosion in Ankara on Sunday | AP

Erdogan later opened the parliamentary session by slamming his country's long wait for accession to the EU, stating that Turkey "no longer expects anything from the European Union, which has kept us waiting at its door for 40 years".

"We have kept all the promises we have made to the EU but they have kept almost none of theirs," he said, adding that he would not "tolerate any new demands or conditions" for his country to join the bloc.

This session of Turkey's parliament must also validate Sweden's entry into the NATO alliance. Hungary and Turkey in July lifted their vetoes against Sweden's entry into the Atlantic alliance, but have been slow to ratify its membership. Erdogan indicated in July that ratification by the Turkish parliament would not take place before October. *AFP*

Yameen transferred from prison to house arrest

MALE

JAILED former president of Maldives Abdulla Yameen was transferred from prison to house arrest on Sunday, fulfilling the campaign promise of his party candidate who won the presidential election runoff.

Yameen is serving a prison term for bribery and money laundering during his presidency from 2013 to 2018. His transfer has been ordered by outgoing President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih at the request of President-Elect Mohamed Muiz.

The elections commission on Sunday released the formal results of Saturday's runoff, which showed 54.04% of the vote for Muiz with Solih receiving 45.96%. The first round took place earlier in September with none of the eight candidates securing more than 50%

Muizzu told a meeting with Chinese Communist Party officials last year that his party's return to office would "script a further chapter of strong ties between our two countries". The result upends Solih's efforts to revert the country's diplomatic posture back towards India since taking office in 2018.

There was no immediate reaction from China to his win, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Muizzu on Sunday. New Delhi is "committed to strengthening the time-tested India-Maldives bilateral relationship", Modi said in a post on X. *PTI*

Pakistan Army chief vows to eliminate terrorism

Islamabad: Pakistan's Army chief General Syed Asim Munir has vowed to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the country through 'unabated' military operations against militants following Friday's twin suicide attacks that have killed 65 people. Sixty people were killed in a grisly suicide blast on Friday in Balochistan that targeted a procession to celebrate Prophet's birthday near the Madina Masjid in Mastung

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my Client Mr.S.P.Lokesh S/o Mr.T.Palakshaiah is mortgaging the said for property bearing Site No.14, Assessment No.101/P1 and 101/6P, Khatha SL.No.12495, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 42.06 feet in all measuring 1275 sq feet Situated at Channanayakanapalya Village, Doddabidarakallu Dhakale, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, to ICICI Home Finance company Limited.

If any person having right, title, interest or Objection in the schedule property must notify they undersigned documentary proof, there on Within 07 days of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that the schedule property is not encumbrance and my client shall proceed within transaction.

Deepa A.M, Advocate, KAR/474/2012 No.6, Bhumika, 80 Feet Road, Chandra Layout, Bangalore - 560040. Dated: 02.10.2023

13 dead in Spanish nightclub blaze

MADRID

AT least 13 people were killed in a fire in a Spanish nightclub on Sunday morning, authorities said, with fears the toll could still rise as rescue workers sift through the debris.

The fire broke out in the two-storey "Teatre" nightclub, also called "Fonda Milagros", in the city of Murcia in southeastern Spain in early hours of the morning. Emergency services said on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, that firefighters were continuing to work at the scene and had not ruled out "the possibility of finding more victims."

Jose Ballesta, mayor of Murcia, said the fire had broken out at around 6.00 am local time (0400 GMT) and was "extremely serious".Ballesta told press at the scene that "there are still bodies to be pulled out" from the rubble, which he said was a complicated task given the "risk of collapse".

Firefighters dispatched to the scene at 7.00 am were able to extinguish the fire by 8.00 am, he said.

Photos released by the emergency services show water hoses from fire trucks spraying the blackened facade of the club.

Thick smoke could be seen billowing from the roof of the building. Authorities said four people were injured, two women aged 22 and 25 years old and two men in their forties, all suffering with smoke inhalation. A police spokesperson said that a birthday party was being held at the club on Saturday night.

"According to initial information, the fire broke out on the first floor of the nightclub, which has a ground floor and a first floor," Diego Seral, the national police spokesman told radio Onda Regional de Murcia.

Forensic and judicial police experts "have been deployed to the Murcia nightclub where the fire broke out this morning to investigate the cause," the national police service said on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Video footage released by the city's firefighting brigade shows the firefighters holding a long hose approaching bright orange flames inside the venue, passing bar tables that still have drinks placed on top of them. More than 40 firefighters and 12 emergency vehicles were attending the scene.

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez voiced "solidarity with the victims and relatives of the tragic fire in a Murcia nightclub". *AFP*

Firefighters near the Teatre nightclub where 13 people died in blaze | AFP

ASIA MATTERS

TRIBUTE PAID TO VICTIMS OF STADIUM CRUSH

Hundreds of Indonesians paid tribute Sunday to the victims of a football stadium crush a year ago that killed 135 people in one of the world's worst sports disasters, while some locals entered the ground and started fires on the pitch. Grieving relatives, survivors and fans gathered for a mass prayer at the Kanjuruhan stadium in the East Javan city of Malang, where the fatal stampede unfolded at the end of a match. One year ago, police fired tear gas into packed stands when home supporters invaded the pitch, sparking a rush to the stadium's small exits, some of which were shut

Hardline Republicans seek Speaker's ouster over shutdown deal with Dems

WASHINGTON

A leading hardline Republican said on Sunday he would move to oust House Speaker Kevin McCarthy for striking a deal with Democrats to avert a US government shutdown without the spending cuts demanded by the right-wing caucus."I do intend to file a motion to vacate Speaker McCarthy this week," Congressman Matt Gaetz told CNN. Gaetz is a leading figure within the House Freedom Caucus – a small group of hardline Republican legislators who had brought the government to the brink of shutdown with their refusal to adopt fresh federal funding without deep spending cuts.

The group was furious when McCarthy struck a stopgap deal with Democrats late Saturday to keep the government open for a further 45 days at current spending levels. "I think we need to move on with new leadership that can be trustworthy," Gaetz told CNN, but said it was unclear that the group could actually remove the speaker, especially after McCarthy turned to Democrats to pass the bipartisan bill."The only way Kevin McCarthy is speaker of the House at the end of this coming week is if Democrats bail him out," Gaetz said. In addition to Democratic support, pro-McCarthy Republicans will work to prevent his ouster. *AFP*

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF RURAL WORKS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
Letter No., Dated. Email i.d.: crew_bbsr@yahoo.com
"e" Procurement Notice for bridge works in Odisha
(Online-07 (Bridge) / 2024-23 dt. 26.09.2023)
O-1170

1. Name of the work : Construction of bridge work
2. Total No. of works : 9 (Nine) nos
3. Estimated cost : Rs 1043.00 lakh to Rs 3200.00 lakh
4. Class of contractor : A Class, Special Class & Super Class as applicable.
5. Period of completion : 15 (Fifteen) & 24 (Twenty four) calendar months. (As mentioned in Clo. 7 of TCN Annexure.)
6. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid identification No	No. of bridge works	Availability of tender online for bidding	
			From	To
Chief Engineer, Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	Online-07 (Bridge) / 2023-24	09 (Nine) nos	05.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	19.10.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which will be available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Sd/- Chief Engineer (Building & Bridges), Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-25123/11/0027/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF RURAL WORKS, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
Letter No: Dated. Email i.d.: crew_bbsr@yahoo.com
O-1169 **Notice inviting request for proposal from consultant**
(RFP-Online - CE (Buildings & Bridges)-06 / 2023-24 dt. 26.09.2023)

1. Name of the work : Construction of H.L. Bridge over Chitrotpala river at 0.00km on Bandhupur Balarampur PMGSY road in the District of Cuttack under Biju Setu Yojana.
2. Total No. of works : 01 (One) no
3. Period of completion : 30 (Thirty) Calendar Months
4. Other details : www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Procurement Officer	Bid identification No	No. of bridge works	Availability of tender online for bidding	
			From	To
Chief Engineer; Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	RFP - Online - CE-Buildings & Bridges- 06 (Bridge) / 2023-24	01 (One) No	16.10.2023 at 10.00 A.M.	31.10.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which will be available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Sd/- Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges), Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-25123/11/0028/2324

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031.
Tel: +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax : +91 44 4564 4022

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of **IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice appended below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

The Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this notice.

Loan Account Number	Borrower/s/ Co-borrower/s & Guarantors Name	Description of The Mortgaged Properties	Demand Notice		Date and Type of Possession Taken
			Date	Outstanding Amount (Rs.)	
10024207823 & 21310782	1. Rajasekhar Singamsetty, 2. Suma S R	All That Piece And Parcel Of, The Residential Flat No. 206 (3bhk) In 2nd Floor, In The Residential Apartment Building Known As "Roshan Platinum Apartment", Having (1440.00 Sq. Ft Carpet Area), Super Built Up Area Of 2279.00 Sq. Ft, Property Constructed On Land Bearing Sy. No. 83/1, Measuring 1 Acre 06 Guntas And Sy.No. 83/2, Measuring 1 Acre 18 Guntas, Totally Measuring 2 Acres 24 Guntas, (Converted Vide Official Memorandum Dated 1-10-2010, Bearing No. Aln (Sb) Sr: 68/2010-11) Issued By The Special Debuty Commissioner), Bangalore, Now Said Property Comes Under The Limis Of Bbmp, Ward No. 193, Arekee Sub-Division, Present Municipal No. 1337, BBMP Katha No. 1337/83/1/83/2, Situated At Arekare Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, And Bounded On The : **East : Sy. No. 82, West : Sy. No. 85, North : Sy. No. 84, South : Road**	24-05-2022	Rs. 1,20,08,659.34/-	27-09-2023 Physical Possession
10060657620	1. Prabhavathi N, 2. Venkatesh J	All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential Apartment/Flat No.005, In The Ground Floor, Having 1890 Sq. Ft. (Super Built Up Area Including Terrace Area) At Site No. 602, In The Residential Apartment Building Known As "J.J. Elita" In Porperty Bearing S.L. No. 602, Municipal No. 44/1, 44/2, 44/3 And 44/4 Old Sy. No. 44 Then Old Survey No. 44 And Resurvey No. 44/1, 44/2, 44/3, And 44/4, Total Measuring 26,136 Sq. Ft. (24 Guntas), Situated At Nyanappanhalli Division And Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore And, Bounded As : **East : Nyanappanahalli Main Road, West : Private Property, North : Private Property, South: Nyanappanahalli-Hulimavu Road**	04-11-2022	Rs.82,24,705/-	27-09-2023 Physical Possession

The Borrower/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** for an amount mentioned in the demand notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

Date : 27-09-2023
Place : Hobli.

भारत सरकार
अंतरिक्ष विभाग
इसरो नोदन कॉम्प्लेक्स
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह
महेंद्रगिरि पी ओ-627 133
दूरभाष : 04637-28-1672|1582|3582
फैक्स : 04637-281681

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
ISRO PROPULSION COMPLEX
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
MAHENDRAGIRI PO - 627 133
Telephone: 04637 – 28-1672 | 1582 | 3582
Fax: 04637 – 281681

ई-निविदा सूचना / E-TENDER NOTICE
दिनांक/Dated : 27-09-2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु ई-निविदा द्वारा मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
On Behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works:

क्र. सं. / Sl. No.	सिविल कार्यों के नाम / NAME OF THE CIVIL WORKS	प्राक्कलित लागत / Estimated Cost ₹(लाखों में) (in Lakhs)	कार्य पूरा होने की अवधि / Period of completion	ईएमडी / EMD(₹)
1	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-90/एमआई/सीपीएच-43/2023-24	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-90/MI/CPH-43/2023-24		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के उड्डान विकास इंजन एकीकरण सुविधा का ऊर्ध्वाधर विस्तार। Vertical Extension of Flight Vikas Engine Integration Facility at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	21.40	05 (पाँच महीने / Five Months)	42,800
2	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-101/एमआई/सीपीएच-45/2023-24	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-101/MI/CPH-45/2023-24		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि के विभिन्न सुविधाओं में क्रेनों के लिए एम.एस. केज सीढ़ी प्रदान करना। Providing MS cage ladders for cranes at various facilities, IPRC, Mahendragiri.	6.00	03 (तीन महीने / Three Months)	12,000
3	एनआईटी सं:आईपीआरसी/सीएमजी/टीडी/ई-104/एमआई/सीपीएच-46/2023-24	NIT no:IPRC/CMG/TD/e-104/MI/CPH-46/2023-24		
	आईपीआरसी, महेंद्रगिरि में आई.पी.एफ. 1, आई.पी.एफ. 2 में फेन निपटान गर्त के लिए शेड का निर्माण। Construction of shed for Foam disposal pit at IPF1, IPF2 at IPRC, Mahendragiri.	22.06	04 (चार महीने / Four Months)	44,200

ऑनलाइन निवेदन करने की तिथि : Dates for Online Request : From **03-10-2023 [10:00 बजे/hours]** से To: **10-10-2023 [18:00 बजे/hours]** तक।
प्रस्तुतीकरण की तिथि व नियत समय : Due Date & Time of Submission : **11-10-2023 [18:00 बजे/hours]** तक।
अधिक जानकारी के लिए देखें : For further details visit: www.isro.gov.in/tenders (या/or) www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.
नोट : उपर्युक्त कार्य (कार्यों) के लिए भविष्य में सभी पत्राचार (शुद्धिपत्र) केवल उपर्युक्त वेबसाइट पर ही प्रकाशित किए जाएंगे।
Note : All future correspondence (Corrigenda) for the above work(s) shall be published only on the websites mentioned above.

समूह निदेशक, सीएमजी, आईपीआरसी / GROUP DIRECTOR, CMG, IPRC.

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E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Sale of Immovable Properties Mortgaged to Repco Home Finance Ltd. Under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Whereas the **Borrowers & Co-Borrowers** having borrowed monies from **Repco Home Finance Limited,** and the details of the liability is furnished hereunder, Whereas the Company has issued Notice under SARFAESI Act and the Authorised Officer has taken Possession of the mortgaged properties and issued Sale Notice on the dates mentioned below and the Company now has decided to sell the properties under section 8 & 9 of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, in **"As is where is condition"** and **"As is what is condition".**

DATE AND TIME OF E - AUCTION: 31.10.2023, Time: 11.00 a.m - 12.00 p.m.
(with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes)

Last Date & Time for submitting E-Tenders : 30.10.2023 at 4.00 p.m.

Sl.No.1: Borrower: Mr.K.R.Dayananda Gowda, S/o. Late K. B. Ragavaiah, **Co-Borrower: Mrs. M. Priyanka,** W/o. K. R. Dayananda Gowda; **Demand Notice Date: 18.01.2023, Amount claimed as per Demand Notice (Account No.1851890000628)** being **Rs.39,43,094/-** as on **12.01.2023 together with further interest, costs and expenses. Possession Notice Date : 10.07.2023, Present Outstanding Amount : Rs.43,13,147/-** as on **14.09.2023**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Site No.3, Khatha No.12/1/3, Property No.12/1, Situated at Bileshivale Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk Bangalore, now within the limits of BBMP. PID No.054-W0766-4. **Measuring:** East to West: 70 Feet; North to South: 40 Feet; And Bounded On: East: Property belongs to Sri Channakeshava; West: 20 Feet Road; North: Site No.4; South: Site No.2;

RESERVE PRICE: Rs.70,00,000/-; EMD (10% of Reserve Price): Rs.7,00,000/-; Minimum Bid Increment Amount : Rs.50,000/-

Sl.No.2:- Borrower: Mrs.Paramita Biswas, W/o. Mr.Sourav Banerjee, **Co-Borrower: Mr.Sourav Banerjee,** S/o. Mr. Asitkumar Banerjee; **Demand Notice Date: 22.03.2022, Amount claimed as per Demand Notice (A/c. No.1851820001173) being Rs.28,16,015/- as on 21.03.2022** together with further interest, costs and expenses. **Possession Notice Date: 07.11.2022. Present Outstanding Amount: Rs.29,11,049/- as on 14.09.2023.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: SCHEDULE-A: All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential bearing BBMP Khatha No.1562/203/20/3/1476/1542, Property Register No. 1562, Site No. 203, in converted Sy.No.20/3, converted for non-agricultural residential purpose vide conversion order bearing No. B.Dis.A.L.N.SR(S).277/2002-03, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, situated at Mylasandra Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring east to west 40 feet and north to south 60 feet, totally measuring 2400 Square feet and bounded on: East by : Site No.202, West by : Site No.204, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.

SCHEDULE-B: All that piece and parcel of the 240 Square feet undivided right, title and interest in the Schedule "A" Property and to construct 3 BHK residential apartment / Flat bearing Unit No. TF-301, Third Floor in the multistored building known as "GEETHA RESIDENCY" with Super built up area of 1265 Sqaure feet along with one covered car parking area bearing No. TF-301 in the basement with Cauvery water and bore well water, electricity and sewage amenities together with common areas such as passage, lobbies, lifts, staircase and other areas of common use etc.,

RESERVE PRICE: Rs.41,65,000/-; EMD (10% of Reserve Price): Rs.4,16,500/-; Minimum Bid Increment Amount : Rs.1,00,000/-

Sl.No.3:- Borrower: Mr.Pandu Kumar Reddy, S/o. Mr.Sidda Reddy, **Co-Borrower: Mrs.Lakshmamma.C,** W/o. Mr.Sidda Reddy; **Demand Notice Date: 14.09.2022, Amount claimed as per Demand Notice (A/c. No.1851860001213) being Rs.42,94,834/- as on 13.09.2022** together with further interest, costs and expenses. **Possession Notice Date: 23.01.2023. Present Outstanding Amount: Rs.49,43,967/- as on 14.09.2023.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.05, formed in property No.9/P1, khatha No.283, Situated at Hagaduru Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, now the property comes under the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, now at Vijayanagar, 11th Cross Road, Hagaduru, Whitefield, Bangalore -560 066, measuring East to West : 40 feet and North to South : 27 feet, in all 1080 Sq.Ft., and bounded on the North: Site No.04, South: Site No. 6,7,8,9 and 10, East: Property belongs to Smt.Nagarathnamma, West: 20 Feet Road. Measuring: East to West: 40 feet, North to South: 27 feet, in total 1080 Sq.ft.]

RESERVE PRICE: Rs.75,60,000/-; EMD (10% of Reserve Price): Rs.7,56,000/-; Minimum Bid Increment Amount : Rs.50,000/-

For E-Auction procedure, please contact M/s. 4Closure, Mr.U.Subbarao & Mr.Bharathi Raja- 81420 00735, 81420 00061.

For inspection of the property the intending bidders may contact the Branch Head, Repco Home Finance Limited, Banashankari Branch, on all working days between 10 A.M to 5 P.M. Contact Nos. (080) 26712341 & 9035049444.

Date: 20.09.2023 **Authorised Officer, Repco Home Finance Limited**

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₹14,767 cr have been pulled out by foreign portfolio investors from Indian equities in September.

How non-salaried professionals can navigate GST regime

Freelancers are required to pay 18% GST if their annual income exceeds ₹20 lakh, and need to follow GST compliance formalities

MONIKA YADAV @ NEW DELHI

IF you are a freelancer, or a professional offering your services for a fee, your income might be liable to an 18% GST if your annual income exceeds ₹20 lakh.

Professionals with an annual threshold above ₹20 lakh per annum like education consultants, architects, management consultants, CAs need to charge GST on their services, and then deposit the same to the government. However, certain professionals like doctors and individual lawyers do not need to pay GST.

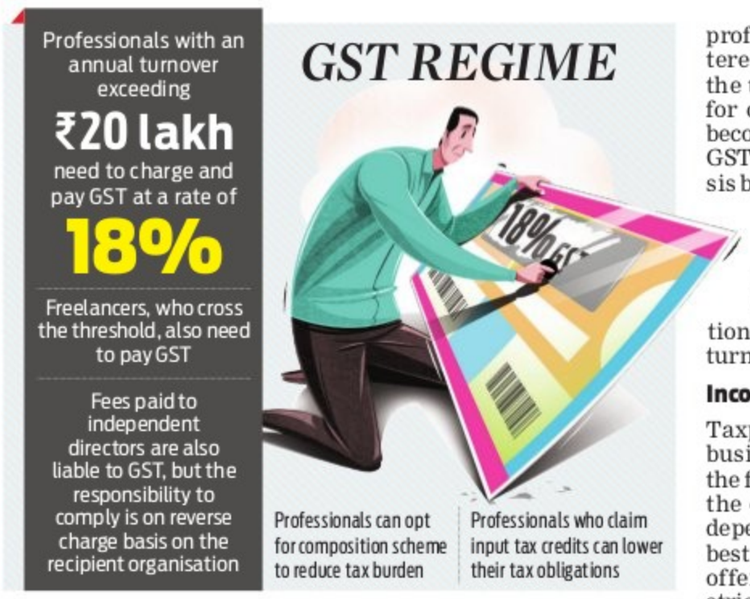
"Employees of organisations receive salaries and are not subject to GST. Freelancers, who cross the threshold also need to pay GST and need to follow GST compliance formalities. Fees paid to independent directors are liable to GST, but the responsibility to comply is on reverse charge basis on the recipient organisation," said Saloni Roy, Partner, Deloitte India.

But paying an 18% GST and complying with GST rules could be both painful and cumbersome. Are there ways to reduce the GST burden?

According to experts, there are ways to reduce tax burdens and navigate the GST landscape effectively. One option for eligible professionals is to consider the composition scheme.

This scheme offers a lower tax rate and simpler compliance requirements, making it an attractive choice for those looking to streamline their tax obligations. By opting for this scheme, professionals can reduce their administrative burden and focus on their core expertise.

However, according to the founders of HostBooks, the taxpayers need to meet some conditions laid down in the tax law to qualify for the composition scheme.


Professionals with an annual turnover exceeding
₹20 lakh
need to charge and pay GST at a rate of
18%
Freelancers, who cross the threshold, also need to pay GST
Fees paid to independent directors are also liable to GST, but the responsibility to comply is on reverse charge basis on the recipient organisation
GST REGIME
18% GST
Professionals can opt for composition scheme to reduce tax burden
Professionals who claim input tax credits can lower their tax obligations

"They should make sure that their records are accurate and keep track of their costs, invoices, and input tax credits. Professionals who claim input tax credits can lower their tax obligations," said HostBooks founder.

According to Pune-based GST expert Pritam Mahure, for professionals including chartered accountants who cross the threshold (and not opting for composition scheme) and become liable to pay GST, filing GST returns on a monthly basis becomes mandatory.

They need to file GSTR1 on the first of every month and GSTR3B on 20th of every month.

Those opting for composition have to file quarterly returns and one annual return.

Income Tax

Taxpayers with income from business and profession have the flexibility to select between the old and new tax regimes, depending on what suits them best. While the new tax regime offers lower tax rates, it restricts various deductions and exemptions under section 10 or chapter VI-A. However, it's important to note that non-salaried taxpayers, specifically those with income from professions, can opt for the new tax regime only once and cannot change annually like salaried taxpayers.

Therefore, careful consideration of future plans and circumstances is crucial when deciding on the tax regime.

According to HostBooks, "Professionals can reduce their tax liability through various provisions. One significant option is Section 80C, allowing savings of up to ₹1.5 lakh annually. Investments eligible under 80C include FDs, Equity Linked Savings Schemes, and insurance policies.

Additionally, Section 80 offers deductions like 80D, 80E, 80GG, and 80U."

Choosing between the old and new tax regimes depends on individual circumstances.

The old regime allows deductions and exemptions, potentially reducing tax liability. It permits a standard deduction of ₹50,000 for salaried individuals and a family pension deduction of the lower of ₹15,000 or one-third of the pension.

Aarti Raote, Partner, Deloitte India said, "If gross receipts or the turnover of such taxpayers exceed the maximum thresholds indicated for tax audits then it is necessary for them to get their books audited."

Raote added, "Further while filing their tax return, they should keep ready all the regular books of accounts like the bank and cash registers, ledgers, trial balance and all personal investment proofs, download latest 26AS and AIS statements, reconciliation of the taxes withheld with the 26AS etc."

"Keeping all necessary documents available for tax filings would ensure that nothing is missed and the taxpayer takes an informed decision of which regime to apply on a long-term basis," Raote said.

MONEY MATTERS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

HOW TO MANAGE FINANCES THIS FESTIVE SEASON

IT is that time of the year when you either look to give gifts or collect them. Festival season every year brings together your family, friends and everyone who matters to you. It can also strain your finances. When you are a 'giving' soul, you do a lot of heavy lifting for others. You spend money on your loved ones without blinking an eyelid. It is only at the end of the festive season you realise that you went a bit too far.

Personal finance has a solution for all situations. You can plan for every expenditure in the future. If you are a person who loves to give gifts to people, you can start early and put aside a small sum each month in that account. It could be a simple systematic investment plan in short-term debt or a liquid fund. Managing your money ahead of the festive season can make you feel good. A professional financial advisor can help you find an appropriate asset to invest regularly solely for gifting.

The festive season is also an occasion to start something new. You can talk to your family about creating new financial goals. It is an appropriate time to think about saving and investing while spending. You can decide on a holiday destination in the next 12-18 months and plan your finances with your family. You can encourage your children and spouses to inculcate saving habits. It is not just the money that is invested that matters. Your ability to curb excess expenditure could also contribute to your holiday pool.

A detailed conversation with your financial advisor before the festive season can help you organise your finances over the next 12-18 months. That way, you would know the extent to which you can spend. If your financial goal in the future needs you to be disciplined, the festive season this year is an excellent time to start controlling your expenses. You can also create new systematic investment plans for specific goals.

If you have not considered retirement, you can take that first step of paying yourself. When you are young, imagining an issue like retirement is challenging. However, a small contribution towards retirement over 20 to 25 years can go a long way in creating a financial security blanket for you. The National Pension Scheme, or NPS, is an excellent first step. If you have not tried it, it is perhaps the right time to get going. Investing in index or exchange-traded funds helps you beat inflation in those years. Your investments must be higher than the prevailing inflation to help create wealth. Through NPS, you are primarily investing in index funds. The 30-share S&P BSE Sensex was around 100 in the 1980s, 3000 in 2000 and 65000 in 2023. It is a force multiplier if you invest regularly for at least 20 years.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

If you are a new parent, the festive season is the right time to examine your child's professional education. That is 15-18 years away, and you can quickly start a fund. The cost of sending your child overseas is spiralling. In another 15-20 years, it will be much more than today. You can easily make a small contribution over the next 15 years and create a pool for your child's dream career.

Your health needs your attention, too. You may want to invest in a fund beyond your medical insurance this festive season. A small contribution towards a medical emergency fund could secure your family's healthcare. You can also keep contributing to that fund for your expenses as you age. The cost of treatment can quickly spiral and go beyond your insurance coverage. You can call it a 'well-being' fund and start contributing to it.

Your money needs your effort. Every time you think about spending, you must think about ways to save and invest. That way, you can strike a balance between your income and expenditure. You can keep your borrowings to a minimum and maintain a surplus throughout your life.

MONEY-WISE

ARE BAFS INVESTMENT MID-FIELDERS?

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

BE it football or investing, the lessons learnt on either field, are often similar. Just as a football team comprises forwards who are the attacking option and defenders who are the defensive line, in between them, there are also mid-fielders who are 'all rounders', that is they move forward to attack as well as fall back to defend. Investing in many ways is no different and Balanced Advantage Funds (BAFs) offered by mutual funds are the investment equivalents of mid-fielders.

The underlying theme that emerges is that be it the football field or that of investments, it is necessary to blend caution with aggression and respond appropriately based on the situation.

In the past, Balanced Funds (now renamed Hybrid Equity Funds) gained in popularity and rewarded investors seeking the risk profile it offered, fairly well. But the fact remained that with no upside equity holding restriction, some AMCs were running it literally like a pure equity fund thus exposing investors to higher risk than they had signed up for. SEBI's classification of funds helped address this issue to an extent.

But, in more recent years and post the creation of this new category of hybrid funds more than half a decade ago, Balanced Advantage Funds (BAFs), which are inherently open-ended dynamic asset allocation funds, have also become popular. It seeks to use time tested mechanisms using a hybrid investment model to capture equity upsides even while casting a safety net on the downside.

The corpus of a BAF is allocated dynamically between equity and debt securities, based on certain pre-determined market valuation and analysis tools. Some AMCs use the Price to Earnings (P/E) Ratio while some others use the Price to Book (P/B) Ratio as their base for determining the asset allocation mix. Then there are some that use a kind of hybrid model, incorporating both, boosted further by trend analysis.

For the sake of easier comprehension, let us assume that a BAF starts off by investing 33% in pure equity and 33% in arbitrage to keep gross equity investments at or above 65% while investing the rest in debt securities. Their long term gains thus attract Equity taxation of 10% as against Debt taxation of 20% (with indexation).

However, like any other Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, BAFs too have the flexibility to dynamically shift the corpus from equity to debt and vice-versa. The underlying theme though is to seek capital appreciation, while guarding against volatility.

To put matters in perspective, it is worth noting that the average fall in returns in the BAF category has usually been around half of that of the large, medium and small cap categories of funds whenever the markets have slipped in recent times. Mind you, this is what the data shows, but by no means any guarantee of how similarly they will fare going ahead.

In the next column, we shall proceed to take a closer look at some of the BAFs on offer, their current asset allocations and performance track records.

Byju's targets profitability by next year; FY22 results in second week of October

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

EDTECH firm Byju's, which will be announcing its FY22 results in the second week of October, is targeting to achieve profitability by the middle of next year. The company had previously targeted profitability by March 2023.

A few months ago, the firm's founder Byju Raveendran said that the company is close to achieving profitability at the group level.

Despite the challenges faced by tech companies globally, Byju's has made substantial progress towards this significant milestone. He had said that the company is now growing slowly but sustainably and most of its business verticals are in good shape.

In October last year, the company laid off 5% of its workforce and said it has been taking various measures to achieve profitability in the defined time frame of March 2023.

In recent months, the company has been making many organisational changes, and on Saturday it announced, "Think and Learn Pvt Ltd today(Saturday) has issued a notice for convening a Board meeting in the second week of Oct'2023 for approval and adoption of accounts for FY'22. The Board of Directors along with the Advisory Council and certain invitees will meet to formally adopt the audited accounts."

The edtech company will also lay off about 4,000 employees over the coming weeks, as a part of the restructuring exercise under the new CEO Arjun Mohan.

In FY21, the company reported consolidated loss of ₹4,588 crore compared to ₹262 crore in the previous fiscal. After almost 18 months' delay, Byju's parent Think and Learn disclosed its financial results for FY21 in September last year. The revenue for FY21 of the group stood at ₹2,428 crore.

The firm is also planning to repay the $1.2 billion term loan B within the next six months. It will clear the loan amount by selling Great Learning and Epic, which were acquired in 2021. Byju's acquired US-based reading platform Epic for $500 million and Great Learning, a professional learning platform, for about $600 million.

These developments have come after the edtech firm formed an Advisory Council. Former SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar and former CFO of Infosys TV Mohandas Pai joined the council, which is playing a significant role in advising and mentoring Byju's Board and Byju Raveendran.

Festive demand steers auto sales in September

ARSHAD KHAN @ NEW DELHI

ON the back of robust demand for sports utility vehicles (SUVs), carmakers such as Hyundai Motor India, Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) and Toyota Kirloskar reported their highest-ever monthly sales in September 2023. Also, there has been growth in monthly dispatches from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) as they are stacking up inventory in dealer showrooms in anticipation of a strong festive season.

India's top carmaker Maruti Suzuki (MSIL) witnessed sales growth in September 2023. However, Tata Motors registered a slump in monthly dispatches last month.

Hyundai registered its highest-ever total sales of 71,641 units in September 2023. Total sales include domestic sales of 54,241 units and exports of 17,400 units.

Tarun Garg, COO, of Hyundai Motor India, said, "The ongoing festive season has resulted in a strong sales momentum, helping us achieve more than 9% growth YoY in domestic sales in September 2023." He added, "SUVs now contribute to more than 65% of our domestic sales." Hyundai's SUV lineup includes Creta, Venue, Exter and Alcazar, among others.

Mahindra has sold 41,267 vehicles in the domestic market, and overall, 42,260 vehicles, including exports.

Veejay Nakra, President, Automotive Division, M&M Ltd said, "We are excited to achieve our highest-ever sales of SUVs for the third consecutive month. While demand for our key SUV brands continues to be strong, we are keeping a close watch on the availability of semiconductors and select components to meet the strong festive season demand." Mahindra's top SUVs include models such as Thar, XUV700 and Scorpio N.

Toyota, riding on the success of Hyryder and Innova Hycross, said that its total sales stood at 23,590 units in September 2023, up 15% y-o-y, and this is its highest ever for a month.

MSIL's total domestic passenger vehicle sales in September 2023 stood at 150,812 units, a marginal growth from 148,380 units sold in the same month last year.

Maruti's total sales, including LCV, export and dispatched to other OEMs, stood at 181,343 units. While demand for its mini and compact cars fell sharply from 101,750 units in September 2022 to 78,903 units last month, its utility vehicle volume doubled year-on-year to 59,271 units in September 2023.

Tata Motors' total domestic PV sales fell 6% y-o-y in September to 44,809 units. Shailesh Chandra, Managing Director of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicle said, "We had proactively reduced supplies of the outgoing models this quarter to enable a smooth transition to the new generation models. Going forward, with deliveries commencing of our exciting new generation products, we expect stepped-up volumes in this festive season and beyond."

Honda Cars India also benefited from the launch of its Elevate SUV. Honda registered monthly domestic sales of 9,861 units in September 2023, up 13% year-on-year. Yuichi Murata, Director, Marketing and Sales at Honda Cars said, "The new SUV has emerged as a frontrunner ,and is contributing significantly to the sales momentum during this festive season. The Honda City and Amaze also continue to perform well in their respective segments."

Let's Hangzhout

19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022

JYOTHI POWERS INDIA TO TOP SPOT
Jyothi Surekha Vennam led the charge as Indian compound archers lived up to their reputation, topping the qualification and also grabbed No. 1 seeding in women's and mixed pair team events at the Asian Games here on Sunday.

This is my last Asiad and I am ending with a medal. I think I will be looking ahead to be able to qualify for the Olympics maybe through rankingling bad.
— Discus thrower Seema Punia, after winning bronze

MEDALS TALLY

TOP 6

Team	G	S	B	T
China	133	72	39	244
Korea	30	35	60	125
Japan	29	41	42	112
India	13	21	19	53
Uzbekistan	11	12	17	40
Thailand	10	6	14	30

India's medals on Sunday

GOLD

Shooting: Men's trap shooting: Prithviraj Tondaiman, Kynan Chenai, Zoravar Singh Sandhu

Athletics: Shot put: Tajinderpal Singh Toor; 3000m steeplechase: Avinash Sable

SILVER

Athletics: Long jump: Murali Sreeshankar; Men's 1500m: Ajay Kumar Saorj; W 1500m: Harmilan Bains; W 100m: Jyothi Yarraji

Badminton: India men's team

Golf: Aditi Ashok;

Shooting: W trap shooting: Manisha Keer, Preeti Rajak and Rajeshwari Kumari

BRONZE

Athletics: Discus throw: Seema Punia; W heptathlon 800m: Nandini Agasara; Men's 1500m: Jinson Johnson

Boxing
W 50kg: Nikhat Zareen

Shooting
Individual trap: Kynan Chenai

SHORT TAKES

Chess: India breeze past opponents

Indian men's and women's teams produced a fine effort to register easy wins over their rivals in the third round of the chess competition. The top-seeded men's team comprising GMs D Gukesh and R Praggnanandhaa, Arjun Erigaisi and P Harikrishna beat Kazakhstan 3-1. The women's side crushed Indonesia 3.5-0.5 for a third straight win.

Trap shooters boost medal haul

The Indian trap exponents made it a memorable final day of shooting competitions here with the men's team clinching a gold and Kynan Chenai taking the individual bronze after the women had won the team silver at the Asian Games. Indian shooters will return home with an amazing haul of 22 medals.

India's dominance continue in squash

A day after the Indian men's squash team pipped Pakistan to clinch the gold medal, the mixed doubles teams won their respective pool matches while Mahesh Mangaonkar won his round of 32 match. Dipika Pallikal and Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu beat the South Korean duo Jaejin Yoo & Hwayeong Eum 2-0.

Ten-man Forest battle back for Brenford draw

AGENCIES @ Nottingham

BRENTFORD boss Thomas Frank bemoaned his side's inability to hold onto the lead when a man up after a 1-1 draw at Nottingham Forest on Sunday.

The Bees looked set for their first league win in five games after Moussa Niakhate was sent off and Christian Norgaard headed in the resulting free-kick. But Forest fought back despite their numerical disadvantage thanks to Nicolas Dominguez's looping header on his home debut. A share of the spoils keeps Forest one point ahead of Brentford in 11th and 13th respectively in the Premier League table. Brentford have now dropped eight points from winning positions in their opening seven games of the campaign. "We are just in that spell where we can't get over the line in terms of winning the games," said Frank.

INDIA'S SELECT SCHEDULE

Diving: M 1m springboard final, 4.30 PM

Archery: From 7.30 AM

Athletics: M Decathlon 100m, 6.30 AM; M Decathlong long jump, 7 PM; W Pole Vault, 4.30 PM; M Decathlong high jump, 4.35 PM; W Long Jump final, 4.40 PM; W 3000m Steeplechase, 4.50 PM; M 200m final, 5.25 PM; 4*400 mixed relay, 6.10 PM; M Decathlon, 400m

Badminton: From 7.30 AM

Bridge: From 6.30 AM

Chess: From 12.30 PM

Equestarian: From 7 AM

Hockey: India v Bangladesh men, 1.15 PM

Table tennis: W doubles semifinal: 10.15 AM

Basketball: W quarterfinal, 1.30 PM

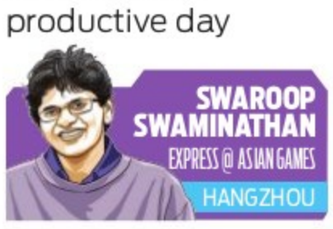
Squash : From 10:00 AM

Live on Sony Sports Network

Steeplechaser Avinash Sable (left) and shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor won gold medal in their respective events | PTI

INDIA HAVE FIELD DAY

Sable, Tajinderpal standouts as Indian athletes have productive day



ON a slightly nippy night inside the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre, India's athletes, young and old, came together to script stories to last a lifetime. Avinash Sable, who has had a history with being tight in big finals, came up with a Games record in the 3000m steeplechase. Tajinderpal Singh Toor, who has spent more days mending his bones than hurling a shot put over the last few years, rebelled against his body to successfully defend the gold he had won in Jakarta in 2018.

Jyothi Yarraji, running next to China's Wu Yanni (Wu has been dubbed as the next athletic sensation by Chinese media) in Lane 5 in the women's 100m hurdles, stared at wrongful disqualification. Wu had jumped the gun by a clear margin and anything that happens after that is moot. Instead, the officials decided to DQ Yarraji too. Both of them ran under protest, with the former picking up silver and the latter winning bronze. In the end, justice was served as Wu was rightfully DQ'ed with Yarraji's medal being upgraded to silver.

But it must not have been a pleasant experience to go through the rigmarole in front of 50,000 people out for blood (Wu had suggested to the officials that the 24-year-old was the one to blame). On X (formerly Twitter), Tejaswin Shankar conveyed the emotions of a lot of athletics fans. "Doesn't matter if or all follow a false start. 1st person to jump the gun is the only person that gets ejected," the decathlete suggested. After the race, she admitted that the incident played on her and affected her.

Before Yarraji, there was the evergreen Seema Punia, still competing and winning at 40. When she won her first Asian Games medal – a gold at Incheon in 2014 — Toor, Yarraji, Sable and M Sreeshankar were either teenagers or adolescents. Speaking of Sreeshankar, the long-jumper won a fine silver less than two months after being 'gutted' post a surprise elimination in the qualifying stage of the World Championships in Budapest. Sreeshankar spent some time at Inspire Institute of Sports in Bellary before going to Hangzhou. Like his father and coach S Murali puts it every day he had to keep motivating him and keep him focussed, especially after the world championships. It's been a long season.

Even before Sunday's eight athletics finals, there was a sense that this was going to be a big night for the Indian contingent. And it proved as they won nine medals (they had collected 20 across all athletics events in Jakarta so they are well on track to exceed that number). There were medals also for Harmilan Bains (women's 1500m), a 2-3 in the men's event (Ajay Saroj and Jinson Johnson) a bronze for Nandini Agasara who only won it after winning her 800m heat in the heptathlon.

Yarraji silver

Out of all the medals, it's hard to not come back to the last event on the track. The women's 100m hurdles had been billed as Wu v. Yarraji and it turned out to be melodramatic in the most dramatic of circumstances. Wu had moved before the pistol went off. Jyothi had moved after the Chinese athlete in Lane 4 had moved in the periphery of her vision. On China's national day, one pitied the official who would be left with the task of disqualifying Wu. Intense lobbying followed and the Indian national record-holder was also being led off the track. All sets of shenanigans ensued before both athletes decided to run the race under protest. Meanwhile, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) were already raging that the Chinese athlete was allowed to race under protest. "We paid $100 and already protested the decision," said Anju Bobby George. That decision, when it was out, was clear. Yarraji, in her first Asian Games, would go home with silver with another sub 13 second mark.

Another athlete who had a similarly dramatic evening was Toor. After two rounds, his scoreboard was showing two big, dirty X, X. The defending champion, already battling inner demons because of the myriad injuries, was looking at an unceremonious exit. That's when he decided to change his throwing shoes. "I was coming a bit slow in the circle so I changed my shoes," he would tell the media later.

It worked as he hurled the iron ball 19.51m. Third place on the scoreboard. The thing is the men's shot put is a legacy event for India at the Asian Games. Out of the 18 previous editions, Indian men have won it nine times. When you are used to having caviar, chances are you wouldn't settle for a toast. So, up stepped Toor for his sixth and final attempt. After summoning the last bits of energy he had, he hurled the iron ball to a distance of 20.36m to win gold.

A crazy last few years for him still has a good ending (pulled out of the 2022 World Championships on the day of his meet following an injury. He missed this year's Worlds because of a groin problem. He was primed to perform at the Olympics but picked up a wrist injury).

Then, there's Sable, the steeple-chaser who used the brown canvas of the track to win the first major gold of his career. While Sable has been making a name for himself over the last 2-3 years — that Commonwealth Games silver in 2022 showed why — he has also come under pressure. Most notably, he failed to qualify for the final of the Worlds in 2023.

Coming to Sreeshankar, his father said, "There was immense pressure after the world championships and I had to keep motivating him every day," he said after the event. "Yet if we look at the year it was very good especially with a record 8.41m personal best, top three finish at a Diamond League, medal at Asian meet and we got a lot of support from the Athletics Federation of India and the Sport Authority of India and TOP."

Toor, Sable and the rest buried some of those demons to kick-start India's push in track and field. On Monday, it will be the turn of the mixed 4x400 to continue this.

Tale of grit: Parveen secures Olympic berth

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

PARVEEN Hooda's tale is a compelling one that underlines courage and persistence. Not so long ago, the Haryana boxer was staring at an uncertain future. After trying her hand in multiple weight categories in recent years, she was yet to establish herself as No 1 in any of those categories in the Indian senior team. To make matters worse, her father has been undergoing treatment for cancer for some time now. As fate conspired against her, she soldiered on.

After acing the national selection trials and impressing the coaches during the national camp, the 23-year-old earned a spot in the national team for the ongoing Asian Games. Having endured unfathomable difficulties, this was just the balm she needed. After trying her hand in 60, 63, 66kg in the past, she has not only made 57kg her own but also secured an Olympic quota. Playing her quarterfinal clash on Sunday, Parveen meticulously cut apart Sitora Turdibekova, her rival from Uzbekistan, to seal the contest.

This is a big relief for Parveen and her family. One person who has had faith in her from the start is her coach Sudhir Hooda. It was after Sudhir's advice that Parveen chose the 57kg category. "Around the time of the World Championships earlier this year, we decided that she should take part in 57kg. We had earlier tried other categories but most of them were already occupied by others and she was denied the same," Sudhir told this daily soon after the quarterfinal bout.

Hailing from Rurkee (Haryana), Parveen comes from a humble background. Her mother is managing the expenses, selling milk at her village. Sudhir revealed that her family has been facing real hardships ever since her father's health started deteriorating. Parveen herself is employed with the ITBP (Panchkula) and does her bit, according to the coach. "Her father has a heart condition and the doctors had advised him against working. He was diagnosed with cancer too and has been battling it for some time now. He has become very weak. They are somehow managing the treatment for now," Sudhir revealed.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Indian men's badminton team fell short in the final hurdle to win silver | PTI

So near yet so far for men's badminton team

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Hangzhou

"JIAYOU," chants incessantly rained in from the stands (the Chinese equivalent of vamos). In response, members of the Indian team, in one tiny corner of the badminton courts at the Binjiang Gymnasium, belted out "jeetega bhai jeetega, India jeetega." While not as intimidating as the Istora in Jakarta — generally referred to as the mecca for the sport — the crowd was making its presence felt. Not a surprise because the country is in the middle of a week-long holiday (September 29 to October 6) as part of the Mid Autumn Festival and National Day. The giant clappers were out and the fans were expecting a Chinese victory. Those expectations weren't out of place. China have owned the men's team discipline at the Asiad in recent years, winning it thrice since 2006 alone. India? Well, they were still searching for their first gold at this level — individual, doubles or team — on Sunday morning. After the first two matches in the final of the team's event, Indians were within touching distance of creating history. After Lakshya Sen had prevailed over Shi Yu Qi, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty took down the World No 2 pairing of Wang Chang/Liang Weikeng. At this point, the crowd was silent. In the Indian bench, there were about 20 people, including some of the members of the Indian men's cricket team (Washington Sundar, Sai Kishore and VVS Laxman among others).

This is when the trouble began. When the team sheets landed, HS Prannoy was conspicuous by his absence (the word is he is having an injury and with the singles event coming up, they didn't want to take a chance). So, with China clearly holding superiority over the second doubles and the third singles match-ups, it all came down to that second singles tie between K Srikanth and Li Shi Feng. Srikanth, however, lost and China went on to win the top prize.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

'Gold lost', says Aditi after winning silver medal

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Hangzhou

WHEN Aditi Ashok went to sleep on Saturday night, she didn't know how much she was leading by. She was thinking 'six or seven'. The game plan on Sunday was pretty simple. Don't change too many things, do the basics right and walk away with gold. That may be rudimentary but you would have to do pretty badly across 18 holes to squander a seven-shot lead.

However, she found a pretty bad time to serve up one of her worst rounds of golf ever to 'lose gold' to Thailand's Arpichaya Yubol. If her Saturday was a golfing masterclass (11-under par), Sunday turned out to be a disaster (five-over). In all, she finished 17-under, two strokes behind Yubol. Even though her radar was off by many metres on the final day, what really cost her was finding the water on the par-three 16th hole. She finished with a double bogey to lose the lead that she had had from day one. On the par-five 17th, Yubol found a birdie (Aditi managed a par). Aditi's gold was kept on champagne on ice on Saturday. The Thai athlete performed a heist a few hours later.

After the round, the 25-year-old admitted that she sees winning silver as 'gold lost'. "It was definitely a gold lost for me," she said. "I guess I was leading by six or seven. Definitely anybody would see it as a loss and it was my tournament to lose and I basically did that. Credit to her as well and she played great. She shot 4 under in these conditions which is pretty good. She had the chance to catch up from the back and she played a good round. She forced me to play well and I didn't so that's definitely a gold lost."

Aditi, who finished fourth at the Olympics in Tokyo after being in the top three for long periods of time, did opine that having a big lead perhaps threw her off slightly. "Yeah, I am not gonna lie," the Bengalurean said. "It wasn't easy. The way your mind works is when you are behind, you are always thinking of the good stuff you can do to catch up. But when you are leading, I don't know if it's good or not, but the mind looks at what can go wrong."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Proteas, Black Caps dark horses to win: Simons

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

SOUTH Africa's bowling coach Eric Simons is confident of a good show by his team in the World Cup that begins on Thursday. Simons, in a chat with this daily, spoke about the team's chances, skipper Temba Bavuma and more. *Excerpts.*

On the mood in the team?
It's great to be back in India. I have been involved with Team India for the World Cup in 2011 and pretty much every IPL, so in fact like more than 10 years here. The team mood is very good in particular after the ODI series win against Australia after being down and then winning 3-1. Still, there is room for improvement, we are all excited about the tournament.

On the balance of the team
Any team can always be more balanced when you have batters down to 8 or 9. South Africa has been blessed with some incredible all-rounders in the past. I think the South African team has got good balance with someone like Marco Jansen who has improved with leaps and bounds. Andile Phehlukwayo is very capable with the bat as well. Maharaj can do the job as well, so it boils down to how they adapt to the conditions and perform.

Indian team arrive in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday ahead of their warm-up clash against Netherlands. The contest will be held on Tuesday | VINCENT PULICKAL

On the spin options
I think we do have good spinners in Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi. I have worked a lot over the years in India, at home and in IPL teams in India and have watched a lot of bowlers. I feel one must not underestimate the ability of Maharaj. He has subtle variations, good control. I think he is someone that I think the opposition batters are going to find it tough to score. He has bounce, drift, loop, then, varies the pace of the ball as well, He will play an important role for us.

On Bavuma as a leader
Bavuma is a leader who leads by example. He is somebody who screams and shouts, demands anything from anybody. He trusts the players.

On the team to beat
I think the two teams to beat in this World Cup are India and England. I think they are both well covered in terms of skill and balance, their batters can intimidate the opposition bowlers. New Zealand are the dark horse for me. In these tournaments they are a well respected side now, they seem to punch above the weight in these ICC tournaments, the World cups. But I also think we have come here very much under the radar, people are not really talking about us. I think we are a team that can certainly go all the way, so I will see ourselves as the dark horse.

TODAY'S WARM-UP MATCHES
England **vs** Bangladesh, Guwahati; New Zealand **vs** South Africa, Thiruvananthapuram

Live on Star Sports Network & Hotstar from 2 PM

EXPRESS READ

Fenesta Open National Tennis meet begins

NEW DELHI: Defending champions Vaidehi Chaudhari and Manish Sureshkumar will lead an exciting field in the singles main draw at the 28th Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship, set to begin on Monday at the DLTA Complex in New Delhi. Gujarat's Vaidehi, 23, will return to the capital city to defend her title. The men's singles draw features Prajwal Dev and Manish of Tamil Nadu.

Sai Sudharsan's 72 guides Rest of India

Rajkot: B. Sai Sudharsan's patient half-century helped Rest of India score 298 for 8 despite other batsmen struggling against Saurashtra spinners on a gripping surface on the opening day of their Irani Trophy match here on Sunday. Sudarshan's 72 off 165 balls was the cornerstone of RoI's innings, as left-arm spinner Parth Bhut took four wickets (4/85). Sarfaraz Khan (17) and Yash Dhull (10) failed once again in an important fixture.

Madhya Pradesh ▶ On Transformative Path

Poor Parents free from worry of daughter's marriage

STATE GOVT. OWNS RESPONSIBILITY

The Madhya Pradesh government has come forward to help the poor families for whom it is a challenge to spend on marriage ceremonies of their daughters. The State Government has been organizing mass marriages for the daughters of poor families.

Going a step ahead, a payment of 49,000 rupees is deposited into the bride's bank account. These weddings, known as "Kanya Vivah" or "Nikah," Marriages of tribal couples are also being solemnized in accordance with their traditions and rituals under the Chief Minister Kanya Vivah/Nikah Yojana .

The Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan is the architect of the scheme based on his experiences in public life. He has been organizing mass weddings for the daughters of poor families. He experienced in his social and political life that it was not possible for poor parents to bear the expenses of their daughters' weddings. Such families would end up in debt.

Immediately after assuming the office as the Chief Minister, he started working on women's empowerment. The Chief Minister Kanya Vivah Yojana is the final outcome of such efforts The scheme has been in operation since 2006.

Expanding the scheme, in 2012, the Nikah Yojana has been added to facilitate mass weddings for the daughters of poor Muslim families according to Islamic traditions. Madhya Pradesh is a diverse state with various tribal communities, each having its own customs, traditions, and culture. Therefore, the scheme was expanded to include mass weddings conducted in accordance with the marriage practices of tribal communities in tribal regions. The modification of the scheme to accommodate local customs and cultures is a result of Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan's forward-thinking approach.

Under the scheme, so far, more than 6,98,800 girls have been married, and assistance totalling more than Rs. 1,504 crores rupees has been provided to help them start conjugal life.

In the Nikah Yojana, assistance exceeding 64 crores and 66 lakhs rupees has been provided to 21,833 girls. In 2006, this scheme used to provide assistance of 6,000 rupees, but it has increased to 55,000 rupees. In order to help them, Rs. 49,000 are credited to their bank accounts. The organizers of mass weddings receive 6,000 rupees. Thus, a provision of 55,000 rupees per marriage has been made.

The scheme benefits the daughters of poor families in Madhya Pradesh who are orphans, widows, or abandoned. Registered laborers under the Madhya Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Board also benefit from this scheme. Provision has also been made to provide assistance to daughters of affected farmers in the event of natural disasters or untimely rainfall. The bride's age should not be less than 18 years, and the groom's age should not be less than 21 years for availing the scheme's benefits. To apply for the scheme, necessary documents must be submitted along with the application form at the Gram Panchayat or Janpad Panchayat offices in rural areas and the Municipal Corporation or Municipal Council or Municipal Parishad offices in urban areas.

35 lakh poor houseless to get housing facility

23,000 acres of land freed from encroachers for poor

No poor will stay without housing. The neediest will be given residential land title. To meet an objective, the Su-Raj Colony Scheme has been designed utilizing 23,000 acres of land freed from encroachers. Building permissions have been granted for this. All basic facilities will be available in Su-Raj colonies. A total of 2,792 colonies have been legalized. This will benefit 35 lakh poor houseless citizens. Funds are being released to 413 urban bodies.

About 8013 unauthorized colonies in urban areas have been identified. Nearly, 80 lakh citizens will get benefit.

So far, the initial survey has been conducted for 7,001 colonies. The results for 3,863 colonies have also been published. Building permissions have been issued for 499 colonies.

All unauthorized colonies will be legalized. Every poor must have housing facility because housing is a fundamental right. The houses are being built for the rural poor under the Prime Minister's Awas Yojana. Similarly, houses are being provided to the urban poor. The process of legalizing more than six thousand unauthorized colonies is also underway.

Transformation of Madhya Pradesh in 20 years

I ncluding the roads constructed in the rural areas, as long as 6 lakh kilometres of roads have been constructed in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Earlier the development used to happen in bits and pieces. It was said that 25 thousand toilets are to be constructed, but now it is said that individual toilets have to be built in every household. Formerly, it was said that electricity connection had to be provided to 10 thousand houses, but now Modi Ji says that every house should have electricity, every poor should have a house to live in, every poor should get adequate drinking water, and Cooking Gas cylinder should reach the house of every poor family.

Strength & Power from the Center

08 lakh 31 thousand Crores allocated to Madhya Pradesh

The cooperation of the Central Government is crucial to the economic prosperity of any state. The then Central Government has allocated funds worth Rs 1 lakh 58 thousand crores to Madhya Pradesh, during the period of 2004 to 2014. Whereas during the years 2014 to 2023, funds worth Rs 8 lakh 31 thousand crores were allotted to Madhya Pradesh.

DEVELOPMENT AT A GLANCE

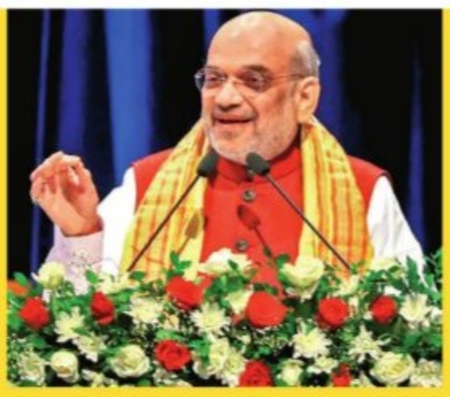
- 60 lakh connections and 1.2 crore houses covered under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- Construction of 80 lakh toilets completed.
- 10 lakh 87 thousand gas cylinders.
- 42 lakh people got houses under PM Awas Yojana.
- Adi Shankaracharya's Advaita Memorial is being erected using 2,400 crores.
- At the same time, out of the proposed 3,900, over 2,600 Amrit Sarovars have been made already.
- After Indore, an International Cricket Stadium is being constructed at Gwalior as well.
- 46 lakh Daughters of the state have benefited from the 'Ladli Lakshmi Yojana', along with as many as 53 lakh women benefited from Self-Help Groups.
- The Mahakaal Corridor has been constructed in Ujjain.
- The PESA Act has been enforced for the Tribal population of the state.
- More than 1 crore 36 lakh people have been uplifted from the Poverty Line.

Financial Aid ensured to the Workers

In the financial year 2022, Financial Assistance worth Rs 4 crore 30 lakh 67 thousand was allocated to the state's 6,646 workers under various schemes of the Labor Welfare Board. In the current financial year, assistance worth Rs 1 crore 41 lakh 18 thousand has also been provided so far, to 2,043 Laborers under various schemes of the Board.

Since the inception of these schemes, Financial Assistance worth Rs 35 crore 77 lakh has been provided to 5 lakh 86 thousand Labourers. Financial Assistance worth Rs 8 crore 55 lakh was allocated to 17 thousand 274 workers from the financial years of 2008-09 to 2022-23, by means of the Madhya Pradesh Slate Pencil Workers Welfare Board.

Assistance is also being provided to all the workers registered under the Madhya Pradesh Building and Construction Workers Board.,. Since the inception of the schemes, benefits worth Rs 2592 crore have been given to 40 lakh 17 thousand beneficiaries. In the financial year of 2022-23, financial benefits worth Rs 275 crore were ensured to 34,500 Construction Workers under various schemes run by the Board. Also, since the inception of the schemes, benefits worth Rs 2,592 crores have been ensured to 40 lakh 17 thousand such beneficiaries.



I assure the 9 crore people of Madhya Pradesh that in the coming years of the Amrit Kaal, the Central and the State governments will work together to build Madhya Pradesh into a completely self-reliant state and always keep it in the category of the most developed states of the country.

Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs & Minister of Co-operation.

Affordable Meals to 2.23 Crore Urban Poor Since 2017

177 DEENDAYAL RASOI CENTERS ENSURING MEALS TO NEEDY

CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan For Antyodaya Rasoi at Every Municipal Locality

Launching a novel initiative to serve the urban poor, Madhya Pradesh has ensured that the needy poor get nutritious meals at Rs. 5 per per meal. Earlier it was Rs. 10 per meal.

The Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan designed the Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Yojana with a noble intention to help the poor afford nutritious meals. As many as 177 Deendayal Kitchen Centers are operational at various places. Efforts are on to have at least one Deendayal Kitchen Centre for every municipality area. These are well-managed kitchens operated by concerning municipal bodies with the help of charity organizations. A comprehensive website has also been developed to help the donors for the such kitchens of their choice. Currently, 300 service providers have been engaged.

For those coming to cities and are living in poverty, ensuring proper arrangements for food is a crucial issue. Therefore, the State Government has expanded the Deendayal Rasoi Yojana to provide affordable and nutritious meals.

Housing for Urban Poor

The urban landscape of the state is continuously widening. The State Government is committed to providing basic amenities to the urban population in 43 urban bodies. Providing affordable housing in cities swelling with population is a major challenge. The State Government's commitment is to make every homeless poor owner of an affordable house.

Owning a house is a dream for everyone. Families with lower incomes invest their entire savings on purchasing or building a house. Unknowingly, they purchase land in unauthorized colonies where the basic civic amenities are absent. Their lives become problematic.

The State Government has identified unauthorized colonies and has initiated measures to provide essential civic infrastructure to the residents living there. Not it has been decided to integrate unauthorized colonies into the mainstream of the city.

Currently, 8,300 unauthorized colonies in urban areas have been identified. So far, more than 7,000 colonies have been given initial approval, and the survey has been completed for 3,863 such colonies. The final approval has been granted for 2,792 colonies. The construction permits for buildings have been issued in 87 unauthorized colonies of 6 municipal corporations and 885 unauthorized colonies in municipal areas.

Building permits have been issued in a total of 499 colonies. No one will be deprived of land to own his or her house. The state government has freed thousands of acres of encroached land. This land will be distributed to poor families for housing purposes.

Landless families have been provided with residential land, benefiting landless and poor residents. A survey of 9,220 beneficiaries occupying government land has been conducted and 38,505 have been identified as eligible for land allocation.

The state government is committed to ensuring the rights of every poor including landless poor people aspiring to own a piece of land for housing. This initiative will also benefit families living together in small size homes.

Urban areas are the centres of the state's economy and social development, where people come from nearby rural and small urban areas for employment in search of having a better life. The state government has not only upgraded nearly 49 night shelters but also approved 20 more. Among these, 9 shelter sites have been completed, and construction is underway for one shelter.

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MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Korean summit

On this day in 2007, South Korea President Roh Moo-hyun met North Korean leader Kim Jong-il for 2nd Inter-Korean Summit

OUTCOME

The outcome of the meeting was the October 4 Declaration and the active promotion of inter-Korean economic cooperation

AIM OF SUMMIT

Roh was the first president to drive between Seoul and Pyongyang. The meeting aimed to ease tensions along borders

HISTORY OF DIVISION

North and South Korea share culture and a history of conflict. It was divided in two by US and Soviet forces

A carefully-curated guide to the city's events

PG 2

Owing to diplomatic tensions between India and Canada, there is a cloud of uncertainty looming over Indians in Canada, which *CE* captures

LIVING IN UNCERTAINTY

MONIKA MONALISA

On September 21, India suspended visa services in Canada, citing security concerns at visa offices in the Great White North. The decision came in the wake of the controversy over India's involvement in the killing of a pro-Khalistan activist and president of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in British Columbia, Hardeep Singh Nijjar. While diplomatic tensions between the two countries continue, the situation has put many Indian immigrants in a confused state.

For instance, Elizabeth John, who moved to Canada in 2018, was looking forward to meeting her fiancé sometime in October or November. Although the visa processing was going smoothly, now things seem to have come to a halt. "We have been trying to get my fiancé's visa work done, but now things are uncertain. We're just waiting to hear back from them because he has finished most of his visa work and is awaiting the final stamp on the passport. Even the website says there is an 'update' but what this update is, is not clear," says John, who was hoping that the visa would come by October, but now with all this unrest, things are getting delayed.

Like John, there are many who are stuck in similar situations. Rohit Jayaprakash, who runs a boutique immigration company in Toronto, mentions that ever since the news on the diplomatic tensions dropped, he has been getting concerned calls from many clients. "One of my clients, who is having a baby in two weeks, has her parents over in Toronto. They're planning to return to India in November because their medical insurance is expiring, and then return again in January. She is uncertain if they will go back and whether they will be able to return to Canada," says Jayaprakash, adding that it's a fluid situation where things can change overnight. With the winter holidays coming up, many students are concerned because a lot of them travel during that time. "In December, many are planning to book tickets, and they are not sure whether they should, because tickets are expensive if done last minute," says Jayaprakash.

Rahul Rajpurohit, who is currently pursuing his masters in business administration, describes a similar situation. "A lot of my friends were looking forward to travelling for the holidays, but now they are not sure what to do. For me, since I am graduating next year, my parents are planning to travel during that time. So I hope things settle down by then," says Rajpurohit.

Not just travel, the situation is a huge hit for students who were planning to apply to Canadian universities. Ankur Dhawan, president of a platform for higher education, says interest in Canadian universities has gone down. "There has been a 10-15 per cent drop in the inquiries for Canadian universities that we used to get daily. Also, students are asking for other countries' options as well," says Dhawan, adding, "Canada is known for its friendly immigration policies. If you look at similar options where you can settle, it is mostly in Europe, which is an aging economy, so they prefer to have fresh graduates go and study there and build their careers. So, Germany, France, and Finland are the countries that are now trying to woo Indian students."

We have been trying to get my fiancé's visa work done, but now things are uncertain... Even the website says there is an 'update' but what this update is, is not clear

- Elizabeth John, designer

One of my clients, who is having a baby in two weeks, has her parents over in Toronto. They're planning to go back in November because their medical insurance is expiring, and plan to return again in January. She is uncertain if they will be able to be back in Canada

- Rohith Jayaprakash, visa consultant

EXPRESS FEATURES

CLAMOUR CHAOS & CHANGE

This fresh play from a Mumbai-based theatre company, in B'luru last week, explored the frivolous, turbulent-yet-relatable urban life of a young adult

FOR this girl of 25, living with her parents, life on a daily basis is a constant barrage of frivolous odds to be overcome. One particular morning, as she wakes to the realisation that she missed a work meeting, the latest of several, the day spirals out of control. Faced with unemployment, and an overbearing mother, the girl goes on a day's journey, looking for ways to escape her mundane-yet-turbulent urban life, while simultaneously looking for someone to pin the blame on for her life.

Written by the thespian Mallika Shah, *I Killed My Mother/It Wasn't My Fault* is the story of an ordinary day in the life of a privileged, inquisitive, and socially-conscious woman. It delves into the emotional complexities of self-acceptance and the journey toward understanding and growth. Following its premiere in Mumbai earlier this year, the production was staged at various venues last month.

"With this play, I just wanted to put all of these young issues onto the stage. I don't feel like young people want to go to the theatre anymore. So I wanted to create something that is contemporary and poignant, yet with which people can relate," says Shah, who also directed the play.

Despite the gory name, the play is actually a comedy exploring the younger generation's dysfunctional relationship with social media and the older generations. "It's a response to everything that's happening right now. The crazy use of social media that is in all of our lives, the amount of discord we have with older generations, and the self-doubt and hate we go through every day. Oftentimes, people cannot get out of these cycles," explains Shah, who made a conscious decision to situate the characters of the play within a savarna space. "Our politics these days are situated in our identities so much, so I wanted to situate the protagonist in this victimising space, projecting her as this anti-victim," she adds.

While *I Killed My Mother/It Wasn't My Fault* is primarily a relatable production for younger audiences, Shah says it received a positive reception from audiences from older generations as well. "Many, like those from my parents' generation, relate to the play as well, because they see themselves and their children in the characters as well. I was afraid the play would be only relatable to young women, but as it turns out a lot of men also like the experience that the play offers," Shah concludes.

Stills from the play

CITY READ

Blend Bazaar returns with second edition

Blend Community, a vibrant hub for creators, consumers, and brands is back with the second edition of Blend Bazaar, a creator community-powered festival. The event is set to take place on October 7 and 8, at Bharatiya Mall, from 11am to 10pm. With a curated lineup of events, Blend Bazaar aims to be an inclusive platform where imagination knows no bounds. The experience will encompass a lineup of national and international artistes, interactive coffee brewing classes, book reading sessions, a shopping extravaganza, and mixology sessions, to name a few highlights. Hari Shetty, CEO & co-founder, said, "We set out to create something more than just a festival; we envisioned a tapestry of unity, where diverse threads of culture, creativity, and camaraderie intertwine. Following the exclusive and intimate inaugural edition in 2021, this second edition is a manifestation of a larger vision, a witness to the magic that occurs when we allow ourselves to be open to the beauty of blending. We celebrate the power of collaboration and the strength found in our differences as we bring together Indian and global influences in fashion, fiction, music, and beyond."

Handicrafts exhibition-cum-sale till October 9

Pan-India handicrafts from Kashmir to Kanyakumari are on display at an exhibition-cum-sake at Bengaluru Utsava at White House Convention Centre in HSR Layout. This visual treat will go on till October 9. More than 75 stalls have been put up that have artefacts and handicrafts from all over the country. Colourful items, including multi-variety handicrafts and special gift materials, are on display. Shruthi, a lifestyle content creator, inaugurated the exhibition. Speaking on the occasion, she said this mela is unique in conception and unique in arrangements as it has a variety of sarees giving a wide range of choices.

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress @gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner will receive a voucher worth ₹500 from Kund Indian Barbeque - Indiranagar, 100 Feet Road**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Patande 2) Pazham Pori 3) Injera

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Ataul Haque 2) Rana S 3) Suresh L

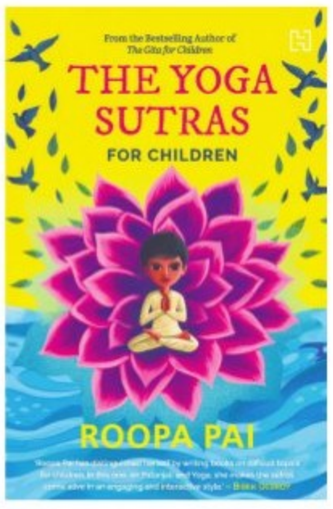
In her latest book, city-based author Roopa Pai shares Patanjali's techniques to help young readers approach their increasingly complex lives with positivity and confidence

UNLOCKING YOUNG MINDS

DESE GOWDA

CHILDHOOD and adolescence are incredibly crucial stages in one's life – a time of constant learning that has an immense impact on one's later life. But these days, children are faced with a world filled with constant distractions and challenges that are unlike anything that previous generations have experienced. A recently-released book by city-based author **Roopa Pai** titled *The Yoga Sutras for Children* (Hachette India; ₹399) promises to be a transformative guide for young minds, teaching them to harness their abilities and embrace life with confidence amidst all the chaos.

The Yoga Sutras for Children demystifies Maharshi Pantanji's two thousand-year-old text on yoga for young readers. "I had very little knowledge about yoga sutras, except that they were an ancient set of aphorisms composed by a certain Maharishi Patanjali. During the lockdown, I heard a virtual lecture that unpacked a stunningly simple proposition of yoga sutras – calm your mind, and all the riches of the world will be yours. I was instantly captivated. Being primarily a children's author who has written about other ancient texts for young audiences, I felt this would be a great text to delve into next – it seemed to be well laid-out to help a generation that had been born into a world of neverending sensory stimulation," says Pai, whose previous works include *The Gita for Children* and *The Vedas and Upanishads for Children*.

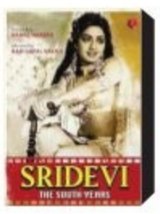


In the book, Pai focuses on the first two sections of the yoga sutras, Samadhi Pada, and Sadhana Pada, which she believes young readers could relate to more effectively. The book also features an avatar of Patanjali himself, who is engaging and delivers his teachings with humour. "I turned Patanjali into the mysterious Maharishi P, who delivers even his "No exceptions! No excuses!" commands with a kindly twinkle and a laugh, so that he would become more accessible to young readers. All the examples I have used in the book to make a point clearer are drawn from the daily lives of children today so that they can relate to them," Pai adds.

Meanwhile, the book also features rich artwork illustrated by Sayan Mukherjee, helping children grasp abstract concepts more easily. "Sayan's illustrations not only complement the text but help to clarify some of the ideas in it. Sometimes, especially when you are dealing with an abstract text, thinking visually – or better, seeing something depicted visually – can give you a sudden moment of insight or clarity into it," says Pai.

So, what does Pai hope young readers will take away from her book? She passionately states, "I hope young readers will come to understand that wherever they are at this stage in their lives and whatever their circumstances, they contain within them the power to shape their destinies, each day, in the manner they desire," she says, adding, "I hope they realise that they are not constrained by the labels that have been given to them by other people – arrogant, clever, unambitious, responsible, fat, funny, born leader – or by the boxes they are expected to fit into."

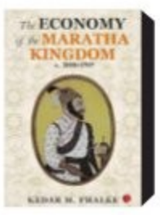
BOOK NOOK



Sridevi: The South Years

by Amborish Roychoudhury

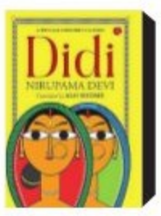
Sridevi set the screens alight for over forty years. This book looks at her early career as a child artiste and leading lady before she became a household name in north India.



The Economy of the Maratha Kingdom

by Kedar M Phalke

In 17th century India, the Marathas were rooted in the vocation of cultivation, working as tillers, peasants and landowners. This book sheds light on a variety of issues that played a role in the rise of the kingdom.



Didi Nirupama Devi

Translated by Alo Shome

This is the story of a woman who loves to be in charge of things. Yet, for her husband, she is only a co-wife. Her challenge is to lead a fulfilled life within the parameters of her weird circumstances.

Unchain My Heart

by Sharika Esther Sharma

The book presents the story of modern Indian women, through Alya, Eisha, Reena and Malini – trying to not just survive but thrive in a competitive world.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Verse and Vision

Prepare to be enchanted by the power of words at the 'Write Out Loud: Poetry Evening', an event that celebrates the beauty and depth of poetic expression.

When: Oct 3, 7.30pm **Where:** Lahe Lahe, Kodihalli
Details: bookmyshow.com

Paint me happy

Join a fun-filled and creative adventure at the Play & Die-Suncatcher with Glass Paints event. Bring out your creativity as you craft your own masterpieces, choosing from three exciting themes: castle, unicorn, and dinosaur.

When: Oct 2, 12noon **Where:** Awesome Place, Nagawara **Details:** bookmyshow.com

Cracking Up

Prepare for an evening filled with hilarious jokes and non-stop laughter with Adesh Nichit. Listen to him talk about everything absurd about himself, his parents, his future bride, his children, and so on.

When: Oct 2, 8pm
Where: Comedy Garage, Whitefield
Details: bookmyshow.com

Spiritual Beginning

Start your week with a spiritual session with the Akhanda Bhajan Mahotsavam, a mass recitation of Vishnusahasranama Parayana by Sadguru Veda Pata Shala.

When: Oct 2, 8am onwards **Where:** Shree Nijaguna Kshetra, Basavanagudi
Details: 948 385 2478

Music and Rhythms

Experience the vibrant rhythms and dynamic beats at a late-night karaoke party with the exciting and invigorating 'Koramangala Karaoke Night'.

When: Oct 3, 10pm
Where: Marcopolo Cafe, Koramangala.
Details: bookmyshow.com

Chai Chat

Enjoy the delightful and intimate gathering that celebrates the magic of connection over a warm cup of chai. Chai Date brings together individuals from all walks of life.

When: Oct 2, 7pm
Where: SmallWorld: ST Bed, Koramangala
Details: bookmyshow.com

On the Stage

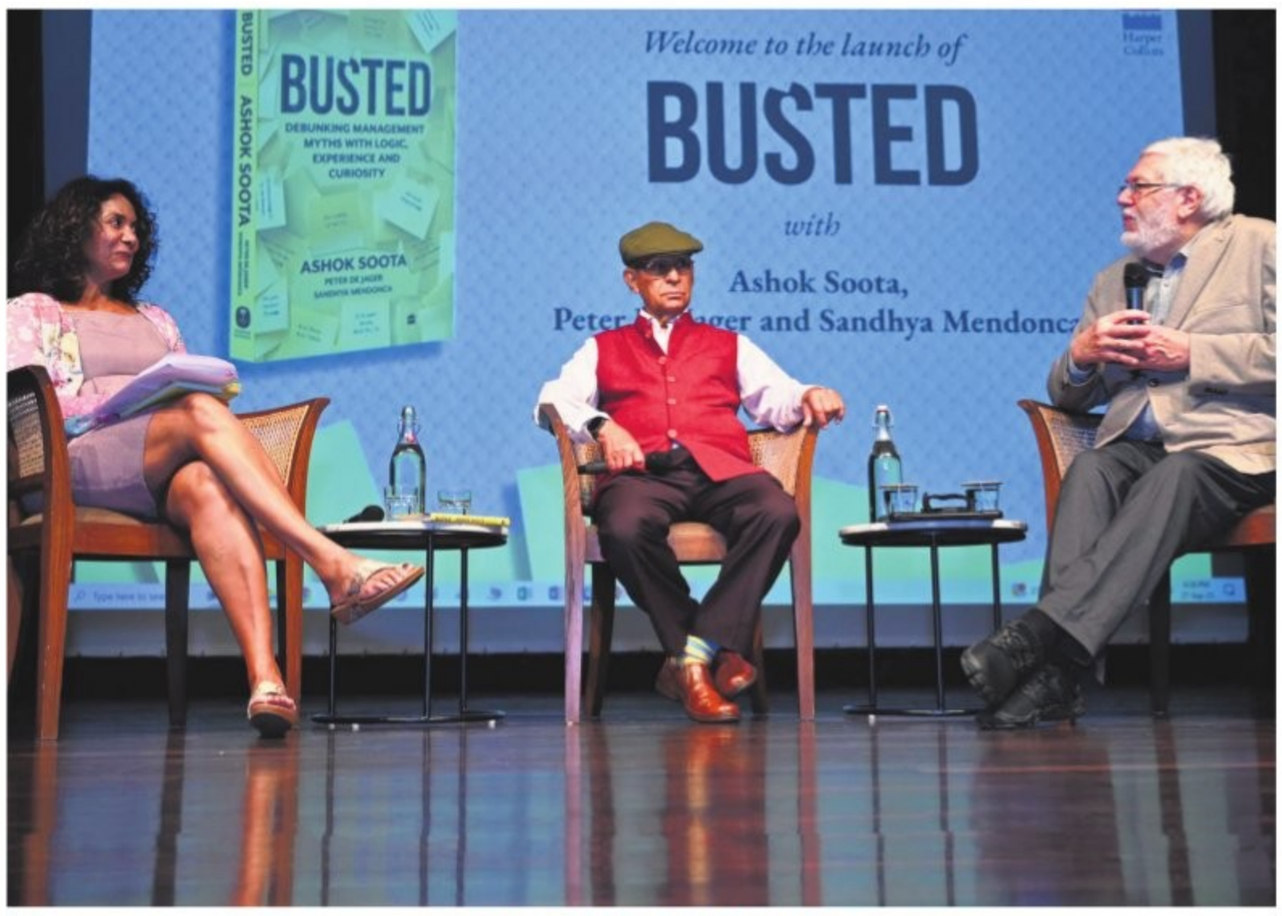
Indulge in a dramatic and riveting performance of *Drohakatha*, a story of the unsung heroes of the Manhattan Project. The play revolves around mystery, suspense, thrillers, tragedy, and war.

When: Oct 2, 7pm
Where: Vyoma ArtSpace and Studio Theatre, JP Nagar
Details: bookmyshow.com

Lights, Camera, Action

Take your acting skills to the next level with an immersive one-day film-acting workshop, scene work workshop, designed to help you develop your on-screen presence and enhance your acting ability.

When: Oct 2, 12.30pm **Where:** Shoonya, Centre for Art and Somatic Practices, Lal Bagh Main Road
Details: bookmyshow.com



BUSTING MYTHS

Busted: Debunking Management Myths with Logic, Experience and Curiosity authored by veteran entrepreneur Ashok Soota (centre), Peter De Jager (right), and Sandhya Mendonca at the book's launch at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur recently | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

QUICK FIX

EGG SANDWICH

Contributed by **Meera Peethambaran,** Palakkad

INGREDIENTS

- **Boiled eggs (peeled):** 8
- **Bread:** 4
- **Mayonnaise:** 1/4 cup
- **Salt:** To taste
- **Lemon juice (fresh):** 2 tsp
- **Mustard paste:** 2 tsp
- **Black pepper:** A pinch
- **Chilli powder:** to garnish
- **Celery (finely chopped):** 1/3 cup
- **Green onions (finely sliced):** 2 tbsp

METHOD

- Chop eggs and put them in a bowl. Mash them to break the yolks.
- Add celery, mayonnaise, green onion, lemon juice and mustard paste.
- Mix with salt and pepper and prinkle chilli powder on it (optional).
- Toast the bread and add the bread mixture between two slices.
- Can add lettuce for crunchiness.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

UTTHITA TRIKONASANA VARIATION

(EXTENDED TRIANGLE POSE VARIATION)

It is a standing yoga asana that requires balance and flexibility. It stimulates energy pathways in the body. Traditionally, it activates Manipura (Solar Plexus) Chakra, which is the body's energy and vitality centre.

STEPS

- Start by standing in Tadasana (Mountain Pose). Inhale and keep your feet apart.
- Expand your chest and stretch your arms to the sides, parallel to the floor.
- Turn your left foot 90 degrees to the left. Turn your right foot as close to 45 degrees to the left as possible.
- Exhale and stretch your left hand toward the left foot.
- Stretch your right arm up and look at your right thumb (the drishti point).
- Make sure that your chest is not collapsing down by stretching both arms. Grab on the toe of your left foot with pointer finger and middle finger and thumb locked on top, and lean back.
- Hold the pose for at least 30, and up to 90 seconds.
- Exhale, release the pose. Inhale, press strongly into both the fee. Exhale, come back to Tadasana.
- Repeat on the other side and then relax.

BENEFITS

- Stretches the thighs, knees, ankles, hips, groins, hamstrings, calves, shoulders, chest, and spine.
- Helps stimulate the abdominal organs.
- Helps eleviate stress.
- Useful to improve digestion.
- Aids with skin-related problems.
- Helps to bring oxygen to your lungs.
- Helps to cure sciatica, and back pain.
- Helps the persons who are suffering from constipation.
- It can increase your stamina and is a good exercise to create balance in the body.
- Maintains mental balance.

LIMITATIONS

People who have a slipped disc/back, high blood pressure, dizziness, injuries or surgeries on neck or knees, avoid this asana.

While practising, do not bend forward and only stretch the body sideways.

Don't strain your neck while looking upward at the stretched hands.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

18+ (Malayalam)

Akhil, a dropout from a polytechnic institute and a passionate supporter of the Communist party, falls deeply in love with Athira, the daughter of a prominent Left political leader in their region.

Cast: Naslen K Gafoor, Mathew Thomas, Meenakshi, Nikhila Vimal

- **Watch on:** SonyLIV

CHARLIE CHOPRA & THE MYSTERY OF SOLANG VALLEY (Hindi)

When her fiancé, gets implicated as the prime suspect in the murder of his uncle, Charulata 'Charlie' Chopra rushes to his aid at his family home.

Cast: Wamiqa Gabbi, Paoli Dam, Naseeruddin Shah

- **Watch on:** SonyLIV

VIDYARTHI (Telugu)

The drama follows Chaitanya as he joins an agricultural college where casteist discrimination prevails. In this college, upper-caste domination is rampant.

Cast: Chethan Cheenu, Bunny Vox, Naveen Neni, Yerra Raghu,

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SINGLE SHANKARUM SMARTPHONE SIMRANUM (Tamil)

In this sci-fi comedy, a food delivery boy gets a super intelligent AI phone which has all the emotions of a girl. His life completely changes when it starts falling in love with him.

Cast: Shiva, Megha Akash

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SHIBPUR (Bengali)

A political journalist in Kolkata discovered a woman who went missing in the late 1990s after becoming a notorious mafia gang leader. Was she murdered by rival gangs or was her disappearance the result of a nefarious political plot?

Cast: Parambrata Chatterjee, Swastika Mukherjee, Susmita Chatterjee

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

LOVE LIFE & PAKODI (Telugu)

Arun and Rheya start their relationship wanting the stability. It quickly reaches a complicated phase. How they face the hurdles is the story.

Cast: Bimal Kartheek Rebba, Sanchitha Poonacha, Krishna Hebbale, Kalajyothi, Anuradha Mallikarjun

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

BIYE BIBHRAT (Bengali)

After a series of unsuccessful relationships, Shakya reluctantly consents to meet a prospective bride. However, things take an unexpected twist when the girl's former lover reenters the picture.

Cast: Parambrata Chatterjee, Abir Chatterjee

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

FOREIGN

STREET FLOW 2 (French)

Struggling to overcome cycles of betrayal, revenge and violence, the Traore brothers continue to fight for a brighter future in a seedy Paris suburb.

Cast: Bakary Diombera, Jammeh Diangana, Kadi Diarra, Kery James

- **Watch on:** Netflix

MONEY FLOWER (Korean, series)

Pil Joo is the keyman of Cheong A Group that Chairman Jang Kook Hwan founded. He met Boo Cheon, Kook Hwan's grandson, when he was young and has been his loyal servant ever since. One day, Chairman Jang calls Boo Cheon and Pil Joo over to decide who's going to inherit the company.

Cast: Jang Hyuk, Park Se-young, Jang Seung-jo, Lee Mi-sook

- **Watch on:** Playflix

OVERHAUL (Portuguese)

The story portrays how a racer is lured in by the influence of a criminal gang to drive the getaway car of their heist. He must now find the means to save himself from the clutches of this evil.

Cast: Thiago Martins, Sheron Menezes, Raphael Logam, Milhem Cortaz

- **Watch on:** Netflix

STILL UP (English, series)

Lisa and Danny, two best friends bonded by insomnia, stay connected to each other late into the night as they traverse through a world of wonderfully weird surprises as their relationship continues to deepen.

Cast: Antonia Thomas, Craig Roberts, Blake Harrison, Lois Chimimba

- **Watch on:** Apple TV

SUBSCRIPTION	
Netflix:	₹199/month
Prime Video:	₹299/month
aha:	₹699/year
Disney+Hotstar:	₹899/year
JioCinema:	₹999/year
Hoichoi:	₹499/month
ZEE5:	₹699/year
SonyLIV:	₹299/month

With World Maritime Day having gone by recently, here is a look at some of the famous ships in history that carried a world of knowledge across shores

OFFSHORE VOYAGES, ONSHORE ART

JITHA KARTHIKEYAN

OUR lives are surrounded by objects from around the globe, though they often pass unnoticed. From our television sets to our food products, they have all crossed several shores to reach our abodes. Most of us are oblivious to the fact that almost 80 per cent of trading in the world is through shipping. September 28 was World Maritime Day. Started by the United Nations in 1978, the day was envisioned as a way to raise awareness about the significance of the shipping industry and its contributions to the global economy.

Artists have always been inspired by life at sea. The ocean and her ships have served as their muse through all ages. Ships and boats are a part of art history. Most ancient civilisations were known for their seafaring abilities. Navigations then were not the journeys that are undertaken now. It simply meant short trips along coastlines. Given the fact that ships were basically powered by sails back then, not much distance could be covered anyway. The Uluburun Shipwreck, which was an ancient Bronze Age shipwreck, discovered by archaeologists in 1982 contained Egyptian Art which revealed their trading patterns. Here's a look at some of the most famous ships in history.

The boats of Egypt

For the Egyptians, the Nile was their national highway. Tutankhamun's tomb contained a lot of models of boats of the time. As far back as 3200 BC, the people on the coasts of Lebanon were shipping wood to Egypt for building ships. This trade relationship for the purpose of shipbuilding flourished for another 2,000 years. The Great Pyramid, known also as an architectural marvel, has the King's chamber at the core. Built from granite blocks, some of which weighed over eighty tonnes, it is an extraordinary accomplishment even in today's times with all our technology, that these huge blocks were transported by boats for nearly 300 miles down the Nile River. They traded their knowledge of building these boats for a constant supply of timber.

The Slave Ships

All ships in history did not contain material commodities for trade. There have been dark periods when human beings were treated as cargo and bundled off in them, undertaking risky voyages in alarmingly miserable conditions only to be sold as slaves in distant lands of the white man. Sue Williamson's installation at the 2018 Kochi-Muziris Biennale titled 'Messages from the Atlantic Passage' sheds light on 300 years of slavery that was facilitated by maritime transport. Five fishing nets suspended from the ceiling and filled to the brim with glass bottles have the name of a slave inscribed on each bottle. Below the net is a wooden base filled with seawater, and bearing the details of the journey. The chilling difference in the headcount on departure and arrival is something that cannot be ignored. It haunts you long after viewing the work.

The Mystery Ship

In the years that ensued, thousands of voyages were undertaken by the East India Company to India, of which there are records at the Marine Department. In their midst, there lies a mystery hidden in the ancient logs and journals. Going by the accounts, a ship called Roebuck seems to have been at two places at the same time. The written journals of Henry Crosby mention his journey on board the Roebuck in July 1620 from England, disembarking at Jakarta in December 1620. At the same time, the journal of another sea-bound traveller, Richard Swan mentions being on the same Roebuck in July 1620 sailing between the Cape of Good Hope and Surat in India. While Crosby disembarked at Jakarta in December, Swan reached the shores of Iran, 4,000 miles away, on board the Roebuck. Well, every narrative has its own share of secret enigmas!

Cleopatra's Barge

Cleopatra's Barge was the first yacht built in the United States that was equipped to undertake an ocean voyage. In the 18th century, the Crowninshield family made a fortune with their thriving shipping business. When the sons inherited the business in 1815, the oldest commissioned a pleasure barge which he named Cleopatra's Barge, influenced by the play Antony and Cleopatra. This may seem unworthy of any mention in today's times, but in an era when only merchant and naval ships were made, an entire vessel for the purpose of leisure was novel indeed and attracted a lot of attention.

The ships that conquered

There were ships that plainly traded goods and then there were ships that arrived on shores with a commercial interest but went on to colonise the land and the people. Hector was the first British merchant ship to mark the arrival of the East India Company into India and, as we all know, changed the history of our nation for centuries. The ship, commanded by Captain William Hawkins, was intended to develop commerce after meeting the Mughal emperor Jehangir for trading rights. No one perhaps predicted all that would follow but this ship has certainly etched its name in all our collective memories and in the annals of maritime history.

"If the highest aim of a captain were to preserve his ship, he would keep it in port forever." And so, ships have set sail for centuries with cargoes evolving along with the changing needs of mankind. Perhaps no other means of transport has ever played such an important role in the growth of civilisations and cultures across the universe. The maritime industry will continue to contribute to our existence in a multitude of ways and artists will always be fascinated by the infinity of the vast oceans!

Cleanliness drive at maternity home

As part of 'Swachhata Pakhwada-Swachhata Hi Seva-2023', the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Regional Office, Malleswaram, undertook a cleanliness drive at BBMP's Shanthinagar Maternity Home. On Sunday, the EPFO staff conducted an awareness walk from Nanjappa Circle to the maternity home, promoting cleanliness and a healthier environment. The volunteers and staff of EPFO pledged to keep the environment clean. Later, they cleaned the maternity home, planted trees, and also painted the walls of the maternity home using eco-friendly paints. Renowned gastroenterologist Dr Anjanappa, who took part in the drive said, "We should create awareness about the importance of cleanliness. If we maintain hygiene and keep our premises clean, we can keep severa diseases at bay."

PIC: SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, LAKSHMI JHA, aged about 40 years, W/O Kumar Sanjeev, residing at : 409, Confident Leo, RB , Carmelaram, Bengaluru. Before marriage, in all my educational documents ,I was mentioned as **LAKSHMI KUMARI (Old Name).** After marriage with **KUMAR SANJEEV,** I am known as **LAKSHMI JHA (New Name).** Above mentioned names belong to the one and same person i.e. myself only and in all my transactions in future, I will use my new name **"LAKSHMI JHA"** only. vide affidavit dated: **26/09/2023** sworn before **P. Nanjunda** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRAVEEN TEGGI,** aged 40 years, S/o. **Nagappa,** residing of No. 37/109, 2nd Floor, Krishan Arcade, Swayamprabha Kalyan Mantapa Road, near Sharada Colony 88 Bus Stand, Meenakshinagar, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru-560079, have changed my name to **PRAVEEN NAGAPPA TEGGI** vide affidavit dated 28-09-2023 sworn before Notary **DEEPA M.** BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANKARAN MARIAPPAN** R/at Nithyanandapuri off Mysore Road, Nithyananda Peetham, Kallugopahalli, Bidadi, Ramanagar- 562109, have changed my name to **YOGATMANANDA SRI NITHYA** vide affidavit dated: 29/9/2023 Before Notary **Sivakumara M.N** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHILPA PRAFULKUMAR SHAH** (New Name), aged about 36 years, W/o. MITESH SHAH, RESIDING AT NO.47, KIRLOSKAR COLONY, 1ST STAGE, 3RD CROSS, BASAVESHWARA NAGAR, BENGALURU-560079, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed my name from **SHILPA MITESH SHAH** (Old Name) to **SHILPA PRAFULKUMAR SHAH** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHILPA PRAFULKUMAR SHAH** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 30/09/2023 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRAMOD.V @ PRAMOD VENKATESH MURTHY, #10, 5th Main, 12th Cross, M.P.M. Layout, Mallathhalli, Bangalore - 560056, have changed my name from **PRAMOD. V,** to **"PRAMOD VENKATESH MURTHY"** vide affidavit dated: 24-09-2023 sworn to before Sri.S. Nagaraj, Notary identified by M.Bhaskar Jois Advocate Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MADANLAL V.,** S/o. Vajingamal, aged about 62 years, Residing at No. 30/1, 2nd Cross, Chikkanna Garden, Shankarapuram, Bengaluru - 560 004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MADANLAL V.** to **MADANLAL V. BHANDARI** vide affidavit dated 22.09.2023 sworn to before Prakasha .C, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **G ANUSUYA,** spouse of No. 13969712 EX-TS NK (LATE) RAJASHEKARA, R/at No. 105, 6th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Mahadeshwaranagara, Bengaluru - 560 091, Karnataka, do hereby declare that **G ANUSUYA** & **ANASUYA G** both the names are one and the same person, and myself. and Date of Birth is **01 JAN 1967** vide affidavit dated 30.08.2023 sworn to before C.V. Earappa, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Deepak Kumar Residing at Flat No. A1-501, Golden Palms Apartments, Hennur Main Road, K.Narayanapura, Kothanur, Bengaluru - 560077 have changed my son's name from Maharshi Kashyap to Medhansh Kashyap vide affidavit dated 23.09.2023 Sworn Before Notary Y. R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore - 560032

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANTHOSH KUMAR MARABIDI KUBERA** Aged about 41 years, S/o Kubera M T Residing at No.05, HH Layout, Mallathahalli, Bangalore-560056.
Have Changed my name from **SANTHOSH KUMAR MARAVIDI KUBERA** to **SANTHOSH KUMAR MARABIDI KUBERA** Vide affidavit dated 30/09/2023 sworn before notary and advocate B A Lakshminarayana Rao, Vijayanagara, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **LATHA,** W/o H.R.Nagaraju, aged about 57 years, R/at No.22, 2nd Main, Sai Baba temple Street, Sanjeevini Nagar, Moodalapalya, VTC: Nagarabhavi, Bangalore-560 072, hereby declare that my names **LALITAMMA & LATHA** are one and the same names which belongs to meitself only. In future i use my name as **LATHA** only. Vide affidavit dated: 30-9-2023, sworn before Notary Deepa.M, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **TANUSHREE SATISH HEGDE,** D/o. Satish Hegde, residing at #G-8, Palace Orchards Apartments, 9th Main, 6th Cross, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru 560080, have changed my name to **TANUSHREE HEGDE PALAJE,** vide Affidavit Dated: 30/09/2023, before Notary **B.V. NAGABHUSHANA,** Bengaluru

AFFIDAVIT
(ONE AND THE SAME PERSON NAME)
I, **BARLA JHANSI,** W/o **Koteswara Rao B,** R/at No. FB382, 1st floor, HAL Central Township, Borewell stop, Dr. B R Ambedkar complex, Marathahalli, Doddanekkundi, Bangalore-560037, do hereby declare that as per my Aadhaar Card & Pan Card my correct name is mentioned as **BARLA JHANSI** and in my Medical ID issued by HAL my name is inadvertently mentioned as JHANSI LAKSHMI B, both the names are belongs to me only , Henceforth my name will be **BARLA JHANSI** only in my records Vide affidavit dated. 26.09.2023 sworn to before Advocate & Notary **K. Venkateshan,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mrs. DUVVURI SAVITHA MANOJNA,** D/o. DUVVURI RAGHU PRATAP, resident of B-4002, Assetz East Point Apartment, Gear School Road, Bhoganahalli, Bangalore - 560 103, do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **KANDURI ANIRUDH** to **DUVVURI ANIRUDH** vide affidavit dated 29.09.2023 sworn to before B.M. Chandrashekar, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **A GOWTHAM REDDY, S/o A.V. Gowri Shankar Reddy,** Residing at Flat no. 310, 3rd Floor, SLN Greens, Trinity Complex, Sarjapura Main Road, Bangalore-562125, Declaring that
1) GOWTHAM A
2) A GOWTHAM REDDY
All the above said names pertains to my names only & all the names are one and the same person names only, and **A GOWTHA REDDY** is correct name Vide affidavit dated 30/08/2023, sworn before advocate & notary L.MAHALINGAPPA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ENAYATHULLA SHARIFF KHADER SHARIFF** R/at No.5/29, 3rd Cross, Pemme Gowda Main Road, J C Nagar, Bangalore- 560006, have changed my name to **ENAYATHULLA SHARIFF** vide affidavit dated: 27/9/2023 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SALIKA NOORIE ALIAS ALMAS FATHIMA** W/o **Shaik Asgar Pasha** R/at No.44, Marappa Block, J C Nagar Bengaluru- 560006 have changed my name to **SALIKA NOORIE** vide affidavit dated: 30/9/2023 Before Notary **Meer Hassan** Bangalore.

NAME CHANGE
I, R.RAMKUMAR (Old name) S/o Sri Rama Krishna residing at No.233/3, 5th C Main Road Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040 have changed my Name to R.KUMAR (New Name) vide affidavit dated 28-09-2023 Sworn before Notary Anuradha.D, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KIRAN SATISH HEGDE,** D/o. Satish Hegde, residing at #G-8, Palace Orchards Apartments, 9th Main, 6th Cross, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru 560080, have changed my name to **KIRAN HEGDE PALAJE,** vide Affidavit Dated: 30/09/2023, before Notary **B.V. NAGABHUSHANA,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SOUMYA RAGHAVENDRA HUNGUND,** R/o No.A-116, SLS Sarovar Apts. A Block, Sir MV Layout, 2nd Main Road, Near Indane Gas Godown Thindlu, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore - 560097, have changed my name from **SOUMYA VISHVDHAR KATHAWATE** to **SOUMYA RAGHAVENDRA HUNGUND,** vide affidavit dated 30/09/2023, sworn before Notary K.C Pemmaiah, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Gangamma .G,** W/o. Krishnamurthy S.N., Aged about 54 years, residing at No. 8, 8th Cross, Mahadeshwara nagar, Herohalli Cross, Vishwandeempost, Bengaluru - 560 091, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **B.M. Lakshmi** to **Gangamma .G** vide affidavit dated 30.09.2023 sworn to before Sumithra .N, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Ambika H L. W/o Manjunath C K. Aged about 33 years, residing at No.7/8, 6th Cross, Govindarajnagar, Bengalore- 560040, have changed my minor son's Name from ASHITH KAVAN RENUK to GITESH .M** Vide Affidavit dated 24.07.2023 sworn before advocate and notary S. Nagaraja, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ISRATH ABDUL RASHEED** R/at No.19, 8th Cross, Muslim Colony, Hilal Street, Kadugondanahalli, Bangalore-560045, have changed my name to **ISHRATH** vide affidavit dated: 30/9/2023 Before Notary **S.R.Nanjunda Swamy** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHARMILA S S** D/o **KRISHNA RAO JOJODE SIVAJI** (Father) W/o **SURESH KUMAR S G,** resident of No. 22/1, 1st Cross, Gundappa Road, Nagashettyhalli, Sanjaynagar, RMV 2nd Stage PO, Bengaluru-560094, Karnataka state that my names **SHARMILA S S** and **SHASHI G** pertains to one and same person i.e. **SHARMILA S S** (Real and Final Name) sworn vide affidavit dated: 30-09-2023 before Notary **N Peruvazhuthi,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, THARCHIUS RITA, resident of No. 42, Ramaiah Building, 6th Cross, Near Anjaneya Temple, Bhattarahalli, Virgonagar Post, Bangalore-560 049, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **THARCHIUS RITA .A** to **THARCHIUS RITA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **THARCHIUS RITA** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 14th Sept. 2023, sworn before Notary **K.B. SADHASHIVAPPA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANJEEVA REDDY N,** S/o. Narayana Reddy, residing at #308, 9th Cross, Near BBMP Office, Doddakammanahalli, Bengaluru 560083, have changed my name to **SANJEEV REDDY N,** vide Affidavit Dated: 30/09/2023, before Notary **B.V. NAGABHUSHANA,** Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **THRUPTHI RAVINDRA .S,** W/o. Ravindra S, Aged 28 years, Resident of No. 14/1, Indraprastha Nilaya, 1st Main, Vaishnavi Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru - 560 097, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **THRUPTHI .S** to **THRUPTHI RAVINDRA .S** vide affidavit dated 30.09.2023 sworn to before Diwakar .N. Kagawad, Advocate & Notary, Government of India, Bengaluru.

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9886550650
080-22866893

Rajavardan

I AM STRIVING FOR A DIFFERENT ON-SCREEN IMAGE: RAJAVARDAN

The actor, who is working on multiple projects, discusses his physical transformationsand hiseagernessforthe film's release

CE FEATURESD

RAJAVARDAN, who made his debut in the historical project *Bichugatti Chapter 1* (2020), has recently undergone a significant physical transformation for his upcoming roles. Currently juggling between multiple projects, including *Pranayam, Hiranya*, and *Gajarama,* Rajavardan's hard work has resulted in a physical transformation complete with the development of a chiselled six-pack.

Rajavardan attributes his successful transformation to his dedicated gym trainer, Srinivas Gowda. He elaborates on how his height, combined with excess body weight, had led to internal injuries that hindered his ability to perform stunts and dance sequences. "I am striving for a different on-screen image, one that allows me to portray a versatile range, from being a compelling commercial hero to a charming lover boy. A six-pack physique is essential to effectively convey this transformation," mentions Rajavardan, who recently completed shooting for *Gajarama*, a sports film, and is eagerly looking forward to the film's release.

"In addition to my three projects, I have signed a film with *Chakravarthy Chandrachud,* which is scheduled to commence early next year. I'm also in discussions with several directors and plans to announce a series of projects in 2024, following the release of his three upcoming films," he says.

Ragini Dwivedi along with Rajavardan dances to a special number for Gajarama

The shooting of Gajarama, directed by debutant Sunil Kumar VA, has been wrapped up with a special song featuring Rajavardan and Ragini Dwivedi. The shooting of the song, shot over the last couple of days showcased their vibrant and energetic dance moves to the catchy tunes of Mano Murthy, and lyrics is written by Chinmay Bhavikerie, and choregraphed by master Dhananjay. The sneak peek of the two artists in the song has quickly gone viral. Produced by Narasimha Murthy, *Gajarama* also features Shishya Deepak, Sharath Lohitashwa, and Shobra in pivotal roles. The film has KS Chandrashekar serving as the cinematographer.

TRAILER OF SHIVARAJKUMAR'S *GHOST* IS OUT; AI'S HANDIWORK TAKES CENTRESTAGE

Meanwhile, the digital de-ageing portions in the trailer wow audiences, recalling Shivanna's roles in *Anand, Inspector Vikram* and *Samyukta*

A SHARADHAA

SHIVARAJKUMAR, who sent fans into a frenzy with his commanding presence in *Jailer*, now takes the spotlight in *Ghost*. The much-anticipated trailer was released in multiple languages on October 1, with Prithviraj Sukumaran, SS Rajamouli, and Dhanush unveiling the Malayalam, Telugu, and Tamil versions, respectively.

A still from *Ghost*

The trailer hints at the film being set in the confines of a prison, and Shivanna essaying the role of a mercenary, who echoes powerful sentiments about how war is the root cause of countless scars on humanity. He goes on about how these conflicts might have given rise to empires or led to their demise, but history has a tendency to overlook the emperors who built these dominions while etching into memory those, like him, who sow the chaos.

Going by the two-minute glimpse, *Ghost* promises an action-packed spectacle. Incidentally, the trailer has Shivarajkumar's voice in multiple languages, and the director revealed that Shivanna has dubbed in Kannada and Tamil, while the team used an AI tool to record Shivanna's voice in Telugu, Malayalam, and Hindi.

What also caught the attraction of the audience in the trailer is the digital de-ageing applied to certain segments of the film. Some of Shivanna's looks take the audience back to his roles in *Anand, Inspector Vikram and Samyukta*. The director mentions that Ghost showcases Shivanna's character in multiple shades, and the de-ageing element plays a crucial role.

Director Srini, speaking to *CE*, on the sidelines of the trailer launch also mentioned that the film is not a typical gangster drama but rather a heist thriller. *Ghost*, produced by Sandesh Productions, is set to be released on October 19 and also stars Anupam Kher, Archana Jois, and Jayaram in pivotal roles. The film features music by Arjun Janya. Meanwhile, Jayantilal Gada's Pen Studios will be distributing the Hindi version.

Rakshit Shetty's *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello* - Side A strikes big on OTT

The release date for Side B of the romantic drama has been pushed to October 27

CE FEATURES

RAKSHIT Shetty-starrer *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello*, directed by Hemanth M Rao, was split into two parts -- Side A and Side B. Side A of the romantic drama was released on September 1 and received a positive response from the audience. It was also dubbed and released in Telugu as *Sapta Sagaralu Dhaati*. The makers rescheduled the release of Side B from October 20 to October 27.

A still from SSE Side A

Hemanth shared that the makers chose to reschedule the release date because of many films releasing on the occasion of Dasara. Meanwhile, Side A of *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello* premiered on September 29 on Prime Video, and has become a huge hit. According to the makers, *SSE - Side A* released in multiple languages has been the most searched film over the last three days, and trending among the top 5 on the OTT, especially the Hindi version.

Meanwhile, filmmakers from across languages, who have watched the film, have showered their praises on the film either on social platforms, or have called the director, and actor, sharing their appreciation.

Apart from Rakshit Shetty, the film made under Paramvah Studios stars Rukmini Vasanth, Chaithra J. Achar as the principal cast and also includes Achyuth Kumar, Pavitra Lokesh, Avinash, Sharath, Lohithaswa, Ramesh Indira, Gopal Krishna Deshpande in supporting roles. With music by Charan Raj, the film has Advaitha Gurumurthy as the cinematographer.

Rakshit Shetty

Director Bharat S Navunda to launch Thandav Ram as a full-fledged hero in a revenge drama

Thandav Ram

Bharat S Navunda

CE FEATURESD

BHARAT S Navunda, who last directed *Mugilpete* starring Manoranjan, is gearing up to kickstart his next project, which is going to be a Kannada-Telugu bilingual. This upcoming project is said to be a family revenge drama and will mark the debut of Thandav Ram as a full-fledged hero.

Thandav Ram, well-known for his presence on the small screen for his role in the serial *Jodi Hakki*, and in a reality show, has previously worked in films in supporting roles. However, this film with director Bharath will feature him as the solo lead.

The makers plan to commence shooting by the end of October and are preparing for the official launch. Apart from three female leads, the director intends to include at least 20 prominent actors in pivotal roles. The yet-to-be-titled project, produced under the A Qube Films banner, will have V. Harikrishna composing the music. Sagar, who has previously worked on Kshetrapati, will serve as the cinematographer for this film.